

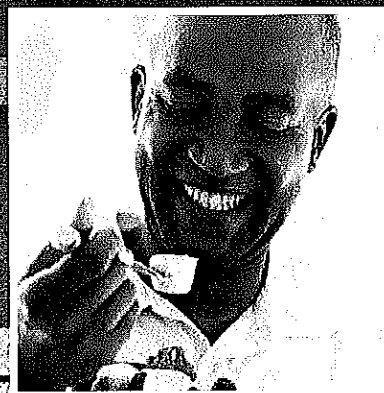
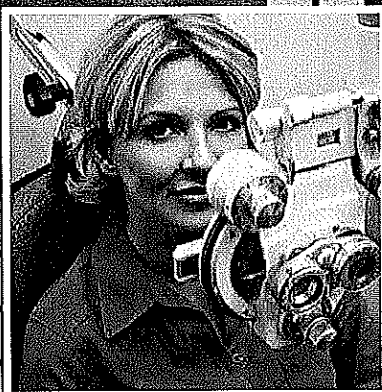


Pathways to

Benefits



**2016
OPEN ENROLLMENT
MAY 2-13**





The Joint Health Care Committee

The labor-management partnership overseeing the State of Ohio employee health care fund

CO-CHAIRS:

KELLY PHILLIPS
Co-Chair, Labor;
Ohio Civil Service Employees Association
(OCSEA)

KATE NICHOLSON
Co-Chair, Management;
Ohio Department of Administrative Services

MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

TONY BONOFILIO
Ohio Department of Administrative Services

TONI BROKAW-FARMER
Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

KATHLEEN MADDEN
Ohio Attorney General

CULLEN JACKSON
Ohio Department of Administrative Services

JOAN OLIVIERI
Ohio Office of Budget and Management

JAN ROEDERER
Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

AMY SHERRETS
Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

ANGELA SHULL
Ohio Department of Rehabilitation
and Correction

LABOR REPRESENTATIVES:

OCSEA REPRESENTATIVES

DEBRA KING-HUTCHINSON
State Board of Directors;
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

JAMES LAROCCA
State Board of Directors;
Ohio Lottery Commission

LAURA MORRIS
State Board of Directors;
Ohio Department of Health

BRUCETHOMPSON
State Board of Directors;
Ohio Department of Youth Services

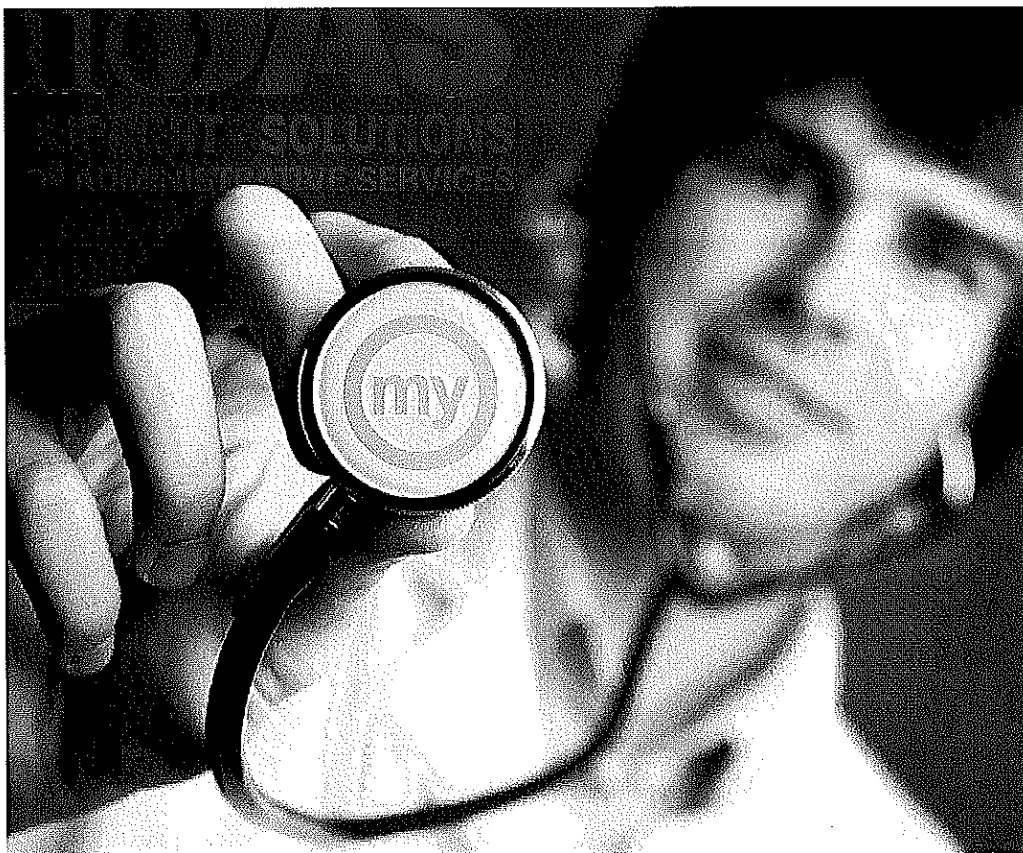
CWA REPRESENTATIVE
TIM QUINN
Ohio Secretary of State

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE
REPRESENTATIVE
RON HAINES
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

SCOPE/OEA REPRESENTATIVE
DOMINIC MARSANO
Ohio Department of Rehabilitation
and Correction

SEIU 1199 REPRESENTATIVE
BARBARA MONTGOMERY
Ohio Department of Medicaid

OHIO STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION
REPRESENTATIVE
ELAINE SILVEIRA
Ohio State Troopers Association



Contents

- 3 Overview
- 4 Enrollment Instructions
- 5 Eligibility
- 7 Medical
- 10 Preventive Care
- 11 Prescription Drug
- 12 Behavioral Health
- 13 Wellness Program
- 14 Dental and Vision
- 16 Life Insurance
- 17 Contacts
- 18 Legal Notices
- 26 Glossary
- 27 Save the Dates

2016 Benefits Overview

Welcome to the 2016 Open Enrollment edition of *Pathways to myBenefits* magazine. The purpose of this edition is to inform you and your family about the State of Ohio's employee health care benefits available this coming benefit year, which begins July 1, 2016.

Eligible employees can elect to enroll or disenroll themselves and/or their dependents in medical, dental, vision and supplemental life insurance coverage during the Open Enrollment period, which will be held Monday, May 2 through Friday, May 13.

If you already are enrolled in benefits, please review your Benefits Summary by logging in to myOhio.gov and clicking the myBenefits button to access your benefits information, as well as your dependents, if applicable. Ensure your dependents still meet the eligibility requirements by visiting das.ohio.gov/EligibilityRequirements. If you do not have any changes to your coverage, no additional action is required. If you wish to waive your current health coverage, you will need to do so during Open Enrollment.

Important Changes for the Upcoming Benefit Year

- Third-Party Administrators (TPA) – Effective July 1, 2016, there will be three third-party administrators for the Ohio Med PPO – Aetna, Anthem and Medical Mutual of Ohio. See Page 7 for more information.
- Enrolled employees will receive new medical and prescription drug ID cards.
- Optum's Family Support Program – For families who are dealing with substance use issues, a new program offers resources and support. For details, visit das.ohio.gov/behavioralhealth.
- House Bill 1 (HB1) Dependents: Pursuant to Amended Substitute House Bill 201, effective July 1, 2016, HB1 dependents will no longer be eligible for the State of Ohio's medical benefits. Dependents may be eligible for COBRA.
- OptumRx has acquired Catamaran and is the prescription drug third-party administrator. The prescription drug benefit will remain the same.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STAFF

CONTRIBUTORS

LISA BERNER
BETH KIM
GREG PAWLACK
MELISSA WALPOLE

EDITORIAL STAFF

MARTY BERKOWITZ
ERIC HAGELY
TOM HOYT
MOLLY O'REILLY
SUSAN BYTHEWOOD RUSSELL

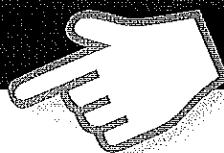
GRAPHIC DESIGN

TRACE HULL
KAREN MAGER



das.ohio.gov/benefits

Benefits Enrollment Instructions



To enroll, disenroll or make changes, please follow the steps below:

1. Review information about available benefits by carefully reading this Open Enrollment edition of *Pathways to myBenefits*. If you have questions, contact your agency benefits representative, human resources office or the Ohio Department of Administrative Services' HR Customer Service desk at 800-409-1205, select Option 2.
2. Enroll in medical, dental and vision coverage or make changes to you and/or your dependents' current coverage by going online to myOhio.gov or by obtaining a paper form.

A. Online

- Go to myOhio.gov. Enter your State of Ohio User ID and password. If you have forgotten your State of Ohio User ID or password, contact HR Customer Service by calling toll-free, 800-409-1205, or in Columbus, 614-466-8857. Make sure to select Option 1 when prompted;
- Click on **myBenefits** under Self Service Quick Access on the right side of the page;
- The Benefits Summary page will open; review your current benefit information;
- Click on **Enroll in Benefits and make the necessary changes or updates**.
 - Submit your enrollment or changes. **All transactions must be completed, submitted and confirmed prior to 7 p.m. Friday, May 13. The system will not accept any entries after 7 p.m. Friday, May 13.** Make sure your online changes are correctly submitted by clicking the **SUBMIT** button on the last two pages of the process. At the end, you will receive a confirmation message that can be printed for your records.
 - For detailed instructions on how to enroll or disenroll online, go to: das.ohio.gov/EnrollmentInstructions.
 - Online Open Enrollment is available Monday, May 2 through Friday, May 13, 2016, as follows:
Weekdays – All day except 7 to 9 p.m.
Saturdays – All day except 4 to 6 p.m.
Sundays – All day except 4 p.m. to midnight

B. Paper

- For medical coverage for all eligible employees and dental and vision coverage for exempt employees, obtain a paper State of Ohio Benefit Enrollment/Change Form (ADM 4717) on the Benefits Administration website at: das.ohio.gov/HealthCareForms or from your agency's human resources office.
- For all bargaining unit members, forms to change dental and vision coverage are available at benefitstrust.org, then click the Forms & Info link.
- Submit your enrollment or changes by giving your completed and signed State of Ohio Benefit Enrollment/Change Form (ADM4717) and/or the Union Benefits Trust Dental & Vision Enrollment Form to your agency's human resources office by 4 p.m. Friday, May 13.

Following Open Enrollment, all eligible employees will receive a confirmation letter in the mail. This letter should arrive in early June. Please review this letter carefully to ensure your enrollment elections have been processed correctly.



myOhio

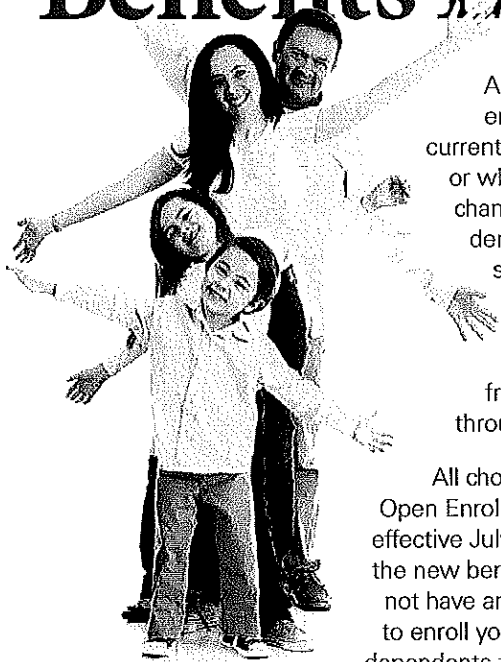
IMPORTANT

If you are enrolling for the first time and/or adding new dependents during this Open Enrollment, you must provide the required eligibility documentation for your dependents. A listing of the required documentation can be found at: das.ohio.gov/EligibilityRequirements.

Coverage will not be provided for dependents until the eligibility documents are received and approved. The final deadline to submit all required documentation is July 31.

You will not have another opportunity to enroll yourself or eligible dependents for benefits or make changes to your elections until the next Open Enrollment unless you experience a change in status/qualifying event.

Benefits Eligibility



All eligible employees who currently are not enrolled or who need to make changes to medical, dental, vision or supplemental life can only do so during Open Enrollment, held from Monday, May 2 through Friday, May 13.

All choices made during Open Enrollment will become effective July 1, which begins the new benefit year. You will not have another opportunity to enroll yourself or eligible dependents for benefits

or make changes to your elections until the next Open Enrollment unless you experience a change in status/qualifying event, such as marriage, divorce, or the birth or adoption of a child.

For more information about qualifying events:

1. Go to das.ohio.gov/benefits;
2. Click on the link for the Change in Status/Qualifying Events Matrix along the right navigation pane.

ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS

Employees

- **Medical** – Most state employees are eligible to enroll in medical coverage (which includes prescription drug, behavioral health and wellness benefits) during Open Enrollment or within 31 days from their hire date. Benefits are effective the first day of the month following the date of hire. Changes made during Open Enrollment are effective July 1. *For more information on non-permanent employees becoming newly eligible for coverage pursuant to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, please see the das.ohio.gov/EligibilityRequirements Web page.*
- **Dental and Vision** – Permanent exempt and union-represented employees are eligible to enroll in dental and vision coverage effective the first day of the month after completing one full year of continuous state service or thereafter during Open Enrollment.
- **Basic Life** – Permanent exempt and union-represented employees are eligible for basic life coverage after completing one full year of continuous state service. Enrollment is automatic. The basic life insurance benefit for union-represented employees is provided through Prudential. The exempt employees' basic life insurance benefit is provided through Minnesota Life.

- **Supplemental Life** – Permanent exempt and union-represented employees are eligible for coverage on their date of hire and have 90 days to enroll.* Permanent exempt and union-represented employees also may enroll or make changes during Open Enrollment. The supplemental life insurance benefit for union-represented employees is provided through Prudential. The exempt employees' supplemental life insurance benefit is provided through Minnesota Life.

*Certain new enrollments or increases are subject to evidence of insurability and may delay the effective date of coverage.

ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS

Dependents

To view the detailed eligibility and enrollment requirements for all dependents, visit: das.ohio.gov/EligibilityRequirements.

Note: To ensure that dependent documentation is processed prior to July 1, it is recommended that employees submit all required eligibility documentation for dependents to your agency human resources office by June 1. The final deadline to submit all required documentation is July 31.

Due to various federal and state regulations regarding dependent children, please refer to the chart on Page 6 for more guidance.



Did you know?

In the event of a qualifying life event, such as a marriage, divorce, birth, adoption of a child or a child reaching the age of ineligibility, you have 31 days to add or remove dependents to or from coverage. If you wait longer than 31 days, you will have to wait until the next Open Enrollment period to make the change. If you fail to remove a dependent from coverage within 31 days of a qualifying event, you may be responsible for health care expenses incurred by the ineligible dependent.

It is your responsibility to contact your agency human resources office when one of your enrolled dependents is, or becomes, ineligible for benefits coverage.

PLEASE NOTE: The material in this publication is for informational purposes. It is intended only to highlight the main benefits, eligibility policies and coverage information for State of Ohio employees and their dependents. Every effort has been made to be as accurate as possible; however, should there be a difference between this information and the plan documents, the plan documents govern. To locate the plan documents on the Benefits Administration website, das.ohio.gov/benefits, click on **Medical** located in the right navigation pane under Benefits.



Eligibility for Benefits

| DEPENDENT CATEGORY | MEDICAL | DENTAL | VISION | SUPPLEMENTAL LIFE |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Children younger than age 23 | Coverage available for eligible dependents ¹ | Coverage available for eligible dependents ² | Coverage available for eligible dependents ² | Coverage available for eligible dependents |
| Children ages 23 - 25 | Coverage available for eligible dependents ¹ | No coverage available | No coverage available | Coverage available for eligible dependents |

¹ View detailed eligibility and documentation requirements at: das.ohio.gov/EligibilityRequirements.

² Student verification is needed for dependents age 19 up to age 23. View detailed eligibility and documentation requirements at: das.ohio.gov/EligibilityRequirements.

Note: When one of your enrolled dependents is, or becomes, ineligible for benefits coverage based on the state's definition of eligibility, it is your responsibility to contact your agency benefits specialist (or human resources office) immediately to remove them from your coverage. Your dependent may be eligible to continue their medical, dental and/or vision benefits through COBRA (continuation coverage) if you notify your agency benefits specialist (or human resources office) within 60 days after the qualifying event.

Enrollment or continuation of an ineligible dependent may result in loss of benefits, disciplinary action and/or repayment of claims. If you fail to remove a dependent from coverage within 31 days of a qualifying event, you may be responsible for health care expenses incurred by the ineligible dependent.

Medical Benefits

The State of Ohio is contracting with Aetna, Anthem and Medical Mutual of Ohio to serve as the third-party administrators for the Ohio Med Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) beginning July 1, 2016. The plan design is the same for all three third-party administrators. Under this plan, employees have access to both network and non-network providers.

Aetna, Anthem and Medical Mutual will each serve specific regions in Ohio based on home ZIP codes. You will be assigned your third-party administrator based on the first three digits of your home ZIP code. Review the chart on the right that features the ZIP code breakdown by plan administrator. Employees who live outside of Ohio are automatically enrolled in Anthem.

For deduction information, see the charts on Page 9.

When you are enrolled in medical coverage, you automatically gain prescription drug, behavioral health and wellness benefits. Copayments, deductibles and co-insurance are combined with your behavioral health plan. If you receive medical services prior to meeting your deductible, you may need to pay for these services up to the deductible amount before the plan starts paying. This does not apply to routine office visits for which you only pay an office visit copayment.

TO OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM YOUR THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR:

If you would like to receive information about the plan, providers and ancillary programs from your assigned third-party administrator – Aetna, Anthem or Medical Mutual – refer to the Health and Other Benefits Contacts information on Page 17. You can visit your third-party administrator's website to download and print the information or call their customer service unit to request that it be mailed to you.






SAVE MONEY: USE BENEFITS WISELY

All of the State of Ohio's health plans are self-funded. This means that the cost of your benefits is funded by contributions from you and your agency. All claims are paid for from contributions – your third-party administrator does not pay for your claims. Rather, Aetna, Anthem and Medical Mutual review claims and process payments, and are paid an administrative fee. When the amount of paid claims is greater than the amount of contributions from employees and agencies, medical costs go up.

It is up to each of us to use our benefits wisely. We can all do our part by making wellness a priority in our lives, evaluating our options when we need care and avoiding unnecessary visits.

Take advantage of consumer tools provided by our medical third-party administrators that will enable you to shop and find lower costs for the services they provide (MRIs, labs, surgeries, etc.).

Medical Third-Party Administrator ZIP Code Chart

| 3-Digit ZIP Code | | Third-Party Administrator |
|--|-----|--|
| Columbus Toledo | 430 |  Plan/Network: Aetna Choice POS II (Open Access) |
| | 431 | |
| | 432 | |
| | 433 | |
| | 434 | |
| | 435 | |
| | 436 | |
| | 448 | |
| Cincinnati Dayton Southern Ohio Springfield Youngstown Out of State | 449 |  Plan/Network: Blue Access (PPO) |
| | 437 | |
| | 438 | |
| | 439 | |
| | 444 | |
| | 445 | |
| | 450 | |
| | 451 | |
| | 452 | |
| | 453 | |
| Akron Cleveland | 454 |  MEDICAL MUTUAL Plan/Network: OhioMed |
| | 455 | |
| | 456 | |
| | 457 | |
| | 458 | |
| | 440 | |
| | 441 | |
| | 442 | |
| | 443 | |
| | 446 | |
| | 447 | |

Ohio Med PPO

OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Annual Deductible | Network: \$200 single, \$400 family; out-of-network: \$400 single, \$800 family (combined with behavioral health). |
| Your Copayments (Office Visits) | Network: \$20; out-of-network: \$30. |
| Coinsurance | Network: You pay 20%, plan pays 80%; out-of-network: You pay 40%, plan pays 60%. ¹ |
| Your Out-of-Pocket Maximum² | Network: \$1,500 single, \$3,000 family; out-of-network: \$3,000 single, \$6,000 family ² (combined with behavioral health). |

BENEFIT/SERVICE

COVERAGE LEVELS

| | |
|---|---|
| Chiropractic Care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80% in-network; 60% out-of-network. • Unlimited visits. |
| Diagnostic, X-Ray and Lab Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80% in-network; 60% out-of-network. |
| Durable Medical Equipment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80% in-network; 60% out-of-network. |
| Emergency Room | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80%; \$75 copay, which is waived if patient is admitted as inpatient; 60% out-of-network for non-emergency. |
| Hearing Loss (Accidental, Injury or Illness) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80% in-network; 60% out-of-network. • Exams and follow-ups are included in coverage. |
| Home Health Care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80% in-network; 60% out-of-network; limit of 180 days. |
| Hospice Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 100% with no copay, time or dollar limitations for both in- and out-of-network. |
| Immunizations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most are covered at 100% in-network; 60% out-of-network. |
| Infertility Testing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80% after \$20 copay, for in-network; 60% after \$30 copay out-of-network. • Coverage includes testing only. |
| Inpatient and Outpatient Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80% in-network; 60% out-of-network. |
| Maternity - Delivery | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80% in-network; 60% out-of-network. |
| Maternity - Prenatal/ Postpartum Care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prenatal Care: Office visits covered at 100% when billed separately from delivery; tests/procedures covered at 80% in-network; 60% out-of-network. Postpartum Care: breast-feeding support and counseling (including lactation classes), and supplies (including breast pump rental) covered at 100%. |
| Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80% in-network; 60% out-of-network. • Unlimited visits (review required). • Includes coverage for Autism Spectrum Disorder. |
| Preventive Exams and Screenings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most preventive care covered at 100% in-network; 60% out-of-network. • Age restrictions may apply. |
| Skilled Nursing Facility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered at 80%; 180-day limit, additional days covered at 60%, for both in- and out-of-network. |
| Urgent Care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$25 copay in-network; \$30 copay out-of-network. • Covered at 80% in-network; 60% out-of-network. |

¹ Plan pays 60% of Ohio Med PPO's contracted allowable amount and you pay any remaining balance.

² If your out-of-network charge is greater than the Ohio Med PPO contracted allowable amount, your out-of-pocket costs will be more.

³ For prescription drug out-of-pocket cost information, visit das.ohio.gov/prescriptiondrug.

FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE MEDICAL DEDUCTIONS

| | FULL-TIME / BIWEEKLY PAID EMPLOYEE DEDUCTIONS ¹ | | | FULL-TIME / MONTHLY PAID EMPLOYEE DEDUCTIONS ¹ | | |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------|----------|--|----------------|------------|
| | Employee Share | State Share | Total | Employee Share | State Share | Total |
| Single | \$40.90 | \$230.68 | \$271.58 | \$88.62 | \$499.83 | \$588.45 |
| Family Minus Spouse | \$111.92 | \$633.12 | \$745.04 | \$242.49 | \$1,371.75 | \$1,614.24 |
| Family Plus Spouse ² | \$117.69 | \$633.12 | \$750.81 | \$254.99 | \$1,371.75 | \$1,626.74 |

¹ These rates represent the total amount that will be deducted from your paycheck.

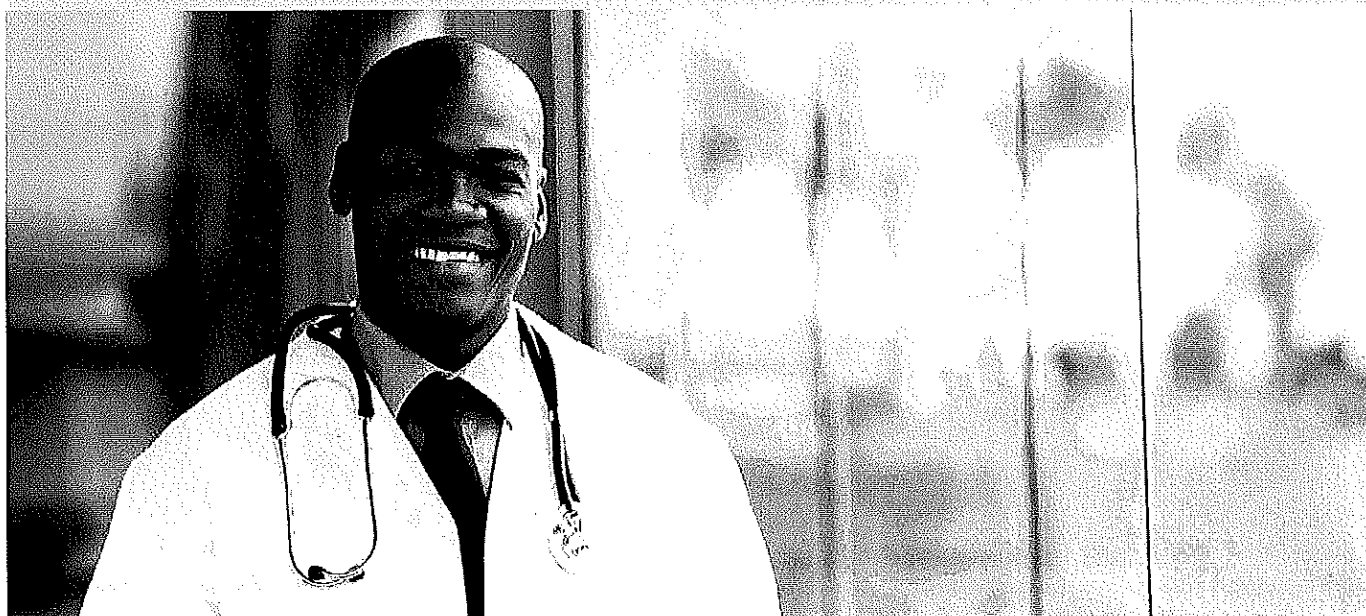
² Family Plus Spouse rates above include a charge of \$12.50 per month to cover a spouse.

PART-TIME EMPLOYEE MEDICAL DEDUCTIONS

| | PART-TIME BIWEEKLY DEDUCTIONS ¹ 50% TIER | | | PART-TIME BIWEEKLY DEDUCTIONS ¹ 0% TIER | | |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------|----------|--|----------------|----------|
| | Employee Share | State Share | Total | Employee Share | State Share | Total |
| Single | \$135.79 | \$135.79 | \$271.58 | \$271.58 | \$0.00 | \$271.58 |
| Family Minus Spouse | \$372.52 | \$372.52 | \$745.04 | \$745.04 | \$0.00 | \$745.04 |
| Family Plus Spouse ² | \$378.29 | \$372.52 | \$750.81 | \$750.81 | \$0.00 | \$750.81 |

¹ These rates represent the total amount that will be deducted from your paycheck.

² Family Plus Spouse rates above include a charge of \$12.50 per month to cover a spouse.



Preventive Care

STAY HEALTHY, SAVE MONEY

Preventing and detecting disease early is important to living a healthy life. The better your health, the lower your health care costs are likely to be. One of the most important actions you can take for your health and your family's health is to schedule regular check-ups and screenings with your primary care physician.

Your State of Ohio medical plan offers the following services with no deductible, no copayment and no coinsurance for network providers. Other services are available for the normal copayment, coinsurance and deductible amounts.

FREE EXAMS AND SCREENINGS

| | |
|---|---|
| Clinical breast exam | 1/plan year |
| Colonoscopy | Every 10 years starting at age 50 |
| Flexible sigmoidoscopy | Every 10 years starting at age 50 |
| Glucose | 1/plan year |
| Gynecological Exam | 1/plan year |
| Hemoglobin, hematocrit or CBC | 1/plan year |
| Lipid profile or total and HDL cholesterol | 1/plan year |
| Mammogram | 1 routine and 1 medically necessary/plan year |
| Pre-natal office visits | As needed; based on physician's ability to code claims separately from other maternity-related services |
| Stool for occult blood | 1/plan year |
| Urinalysis | 1/plan year |
| Well-baby, well-child exam | Various for birth to 2 years; then annual to age 21 |
| Well-person exam (annual physical) | 1/plan year |

FREE IMMUNIZATIONS

| | |
|---|--|
| Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTap) | 2/4/6/15-18 months; 4-6 years |
| Haemophilus influenza b (Hib) | 2/4/6/12-15 months |
| Hepatitis A (HepA) | 2 doses between 1-2 years |
| Hepatitis B (HepB) | Birth; 1-2 months; 6-18 months |
| Human Papillomavirus (HPV) | 3 doses for 9-26 years |
| Influenza | 1/plan year |
| Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) | 12-15 months, then at 4-6 years; adults who lack immunity |
| Meningococcal (MCV4) | 1 dose between 11-12 years or start of high school or college |
| Pneumococcal | 2/4/6 months; 12-15 months; annually at age 65 and older; high risk groups |
| Poliovirus (IPEV) | 2 and 4 months; 6-18 months; 4-6 years |
| Rotavirus (Rota) | 2/4/6 months |
| Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Td/Tdap) | 11-12 years; Td booster every 10 years, 18 and older |
| Varicella (Chickenpox) | 12-15 months; 4-6 years; 2 doses for susceptible adults |
| Zoster (shingles) | 1 dose for age 19 + |

This is not an all-inclusive list. Please refer to das.ohio.gov/medical for more information about preventive care services.

Prescription Drug

OptumRx (formerly Catamaran) provides prescription drug benefits for State of Ohio employees and their dependents who are enrolled in the Ohio Med PPO Plan.

Diabetes Management Program

Members are eligible for free diabetic supplies and medication if they have had a hemoglobin A1C test within the past 12 months of being a member of the Ohio Med PPO.

Pharmacy website offers online tracking, tools

The website for OptumRx, OptumRx.com, is a private, secure website. All of your pharmacy plan information is available at your fingertips 24/7.

Easy access to the OptumRx website allows you to:

- Compare mail-order prices and prices at local pharmacies;
- Find your lowest copay;
- Locate your pharmacy and get driving directions;
- Manage your mail-order prescriptions, including options to request a refill or track an order; and
- Learn more about your prescription drugs.

Visit OptumRx.com today. You will need your pharmacy member ID number located on your OptumRx card to log in. The number begins with the letter "A." (New OptumRx ID cards will be mailed to enrolled employees prior to July 1, 2016.)

For questions, contact OptumRx at 866-854-8850.

Specialty drug management program

Some specialized medications for serious medical conditions such as cancer, cystic fibrosis and rheumatoid arthritis must be obtained from the specialty pharmacy Briova and can only be filled for 30 days or less. Your order may be shipped to your home or workplace. A description of the program and a list of specialty medications are available on the Benefits Administration website at das.ohio.gov/prescriptiondrug under the **Specialty Drug List**.

Not all drugs are covered

Some drugs require the use of alternative medications before being approved. This is known as "step therapy." Examples include medications used for heartburn, glaucoma, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, asthma, elevated triglycerides, migraines, osteoporosis, nasal allergies, sleep disturbances and high blood pressure as well as atypical antipsychotics and antiviral medications such as Valtrex®. Additional medications requiring step therapy may be added at any time. If this occurs, members currently using the affected drugs will be notified in advance by mail.

A program description and a list of medications are on the Benefits Administration website, das.ohio.gov/prescriptiondrug, under "Prescription Drug Updates."

| COPAYMENT COSTS | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| TYPE OF MEDICATION | 30-DAY SUPPLY AT RETAIL COPAYMENT | 30-DAY SUPPLY SPECIALTY COPAYMENT | 90-DAY SUPPLY AT RETAIL COPAYMENT | 90-DAY SUPPLY AT MAIL-ORDER COPAYMENT |
| Generic | \$10 | \$10 | \$30 | \$25 |
| Preferred Brand-Name | \$25 | \$25 | \$75 | \$62.50 |
| Non-Preferred Brand-Name, Generic Unavailable | \$50 | \$50 | \$150 | \$125 |
| Non-Preferred Brand-Name, Generic Available | \$50 plus the difference between the cost of the brand-name and generic drug | \$50 plus the difference between the cost of the brand-name and generic drug | \$150 plus the difference between the cost of the brand-name and generic drug | \$125 plus the difference between the cost of the brand-name and generic drug |
| Out-of-Pocket Maximum | \$2,000 single/\$4,000 family | | | |

The amount charged to the individual for generic, preferred brand and non-preferred brand medications will not be greater than the actual cost of the medication. Therefore, the amount charged may be less than the flat-dollar copay.

The maximum copay for oral oncology medications will be \$100 for a 30-day supply. For more details, visit das.ohio.gov/prescriptiondrug.

* Pharmacy copays do not apply toward medical/behavioral health plan deductibles and the annual out-of-pocket maximum.

Behavioral Health



HELP AVAILABLE 24/7

Optum Behavioral Solutions provides specialized behavioral health and substance use services for State of Ohio employees and their dependents who are enrolled in the Ohio Med PPO. This program, administered by Optum, provides 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week confidential phone assessment and referral services for a variety of behavioral health issues, such as:

- Alcohol;
- Anger management;
- Anxiety;
- Chemical dependency;
- Compulsive disorders;
- Depression;
- Marital and family issues;
- Serious mental illness; and
- Stress.

Copayments, deductibles and co-insurance are combined with your medical plan. If you receive behavioral health services prior to meeting your deductible, you may need to pay for these services up to the deductible amount before your plan starts paying. This does not apply to routine office visits for which you only pay an office visit copayment.

Benefits

Enrolled employees and their dependents have access to both in-network and out-of-network behavioral health benefits. However, you will pay more if you do not use a participating network provider and facility. This is known as balance billing. See the chart on this page for further details.

Support Services

The State of Ohio offers support services through the Ohio Employee Assistance Program (OEAP) for various behavioral health issues, which include behavioral health referrals and consultations for employees and their dependents. Other services include training, critical incident stress management, organizational transition interventions, mediation and a new Family Support Program for dependents up to age 25 who have a substance use problem. For details, visit das.ohio.gov/behavioralhealth.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN

Copayments

- Outpatient office visit in-network: \$20
- Outpatient office visit: out-of-network \$30 (balance billing applies)
- Intensive outpatient care in-network: \$20
- Intensive outpatient care out-of-network: \$30 (balance billing applies)

Deductibles

- Single in-network: \$200 combined with medical
- Family in-network: \$400 combined with medical
- Single out-of-network: \$400 combined with medical
- Family out-of-network \$800 combined with medical

Plan Coinsurance %

- Outpatient in-network: 100% after office visit copay, 80% for other services
- Outpatient out-of-network: 60% of fee schedule after copayment (balance billing applies)
- Inpatient in-network: 80% after deductible
- Inpatient out-of-network: 60% after deductible, \$350 penalty if not preauthorized

Out-Of-Pocket Maximum

- Single in-network: \$1,500 combined with medical
- Family in-network: \$3,000 combined with medical
- Single out-of-network: \$3,000 combined with medical
- Family out-of-network: \$6,000 combined with medical

Other

- Day limits: none
- Annual limits: none
- Lifetime limits: none
- Benefits limits: some

Make Wellness Your Priority



LET TAKE CHARGE! LIVE WELL! BE YOUR GUIDE

Your health and wellness is important to us. The State of Ohio offers a robust and comprehensive health and wellness program called *Take Charge! Live Well!*

Take Charge! Live Well! provides the tools, guidance and resources you need to be healthier, happier and more productive, while reducing health care costs.

On a personal level, the benefits of *Take Charge! Live Well!* include:

- Biometric screenings;
- Well-Being 5 Survey;
- Health coaching;
- Rewards for taking steps to improve your health;
- 24-hour Nurse Advice Line;
- Flu vaccinations;
- Health and wellness fairs;
- Weight-loss, fitness and activity challenges;
- A website full of resources, ohio.gov/tclw;
- Online tracking of wellness activities;
- On-site wellness ambassadors to provide information and answer questions; and
- A new Financial Well-Being program by financial expert Dave Ramsey.

Specific programs include:

- Tobacco cessation; and
- Support for chronic disease management.

At an enterprise level, *Take Charge! Live Well!* is designed to:

- Offer preventive care tools and resources to its enrolled members;
- Increase productivity;
- Encourage engagement among employees;
- Improve retention; and
- Contain or reduce health care costs by improving health.

Take Charge! Live Well! supports you in your effort to be your healthiest by helping you identify risks and improve your health.

Employees active in *Take Charge! Live Well!* have expressed that they appreciate the blend of an educational and motivational approach to health and wellness.

For full details, visit the *Take Charge! Live Well!* website at: ohio.gov/tclw.

Healthways Website Updates Scheduled

Healthways will be performing annual system updates from July 1 through 14. During this time, Well-Being Connect, the Healthways website, will not be accessible.

PATHWAYS TO WELLNESS

Step 1: ASSESS YOUR HEALTH

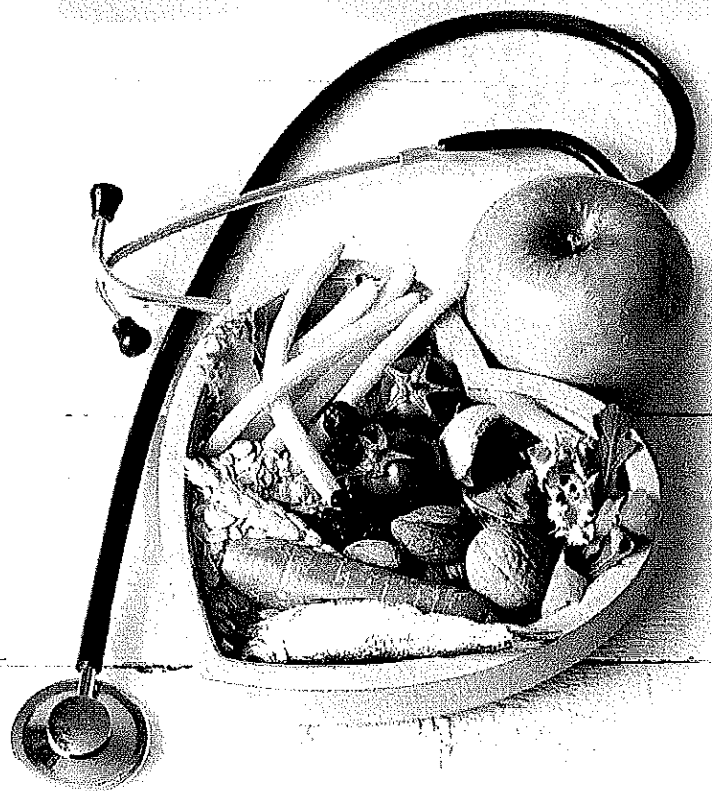
- Complete your biometric screening through an on-site screening or through your physician: **Earn \$75**
 - Complete your Well-Being 5 Survey: **Earn \$50**
- BONUS:** Submit BOTH by Nov. 30, 2016: **Earn another \$25**

Step 2: TAKE ACTION – It's Your Choice!

- Complete the Coaching Pathway; OR
 - Complete the Online Pathway
- Earn \$200**

Reward cards are considered taxable compensation. The taxes on the amount of your incentive will be deducted from your paycheck.

For more detailed information about rewards and the *Take Charge! Live Well!* program, go to the *Take Charge! Live Well!* website at ohio.gov/tclw and click on the **Program Guide** button.



Dental and Vision

FOR EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

The State of Ohio pays the full cost for you and your eligible dependents (children younger than age 23¹) to participate in the dental and vision plans. Exempt employees are eligible to participate in these plans effective the first day of the month after completing one year of continuous state service. Employees receive a letter indicating when they will be eligible for dental coverage.

Delta Dental PPO

Dental coverage is offered through the Delta Dental PPO plan, offered through Delta Dental of Ohio. You can go to any licensed dentist of your choice and receive benefits, but you typically will pay less when you go to an in-network dentist.

Your out-of-pocket expenses will vary depending on the participation status of your dentist. Your out-of-pocket costs are likely to be lower if you go to a dentist who participates in one of the Delta Dental networks. For most covered services, Delta Dental pays a higher percentage if you go to a dentist in its PPO network over its Premier network. Delta pays the least for out-of-network dentists.

To find a participating Delta Dental dentist near you, visit or call:

deltadentaloh.com
800-524-0149
Group Number: 9273-0001

Print Your Delta Dental Card Online

If you would like a card to present to your dentist, you may print a card from Delta Dental's website. After you are enrolled in the dental plan, visit deltadentaloh.com and click on **Consumer Toolkit**.

Complete the login process and click on **Print ID Card**. If you are enrolling in the plan for the first time, please wait until July 1 to access the dental site.

Vision Service Plan

Vision coverage is offered through Vision Service Plan (VSP). The VSP Choice network encompasses a large number of providers. If you use a non-network provider, out-of-network charges will apply.

To find a participating VSP vision provider near you, visit or call:

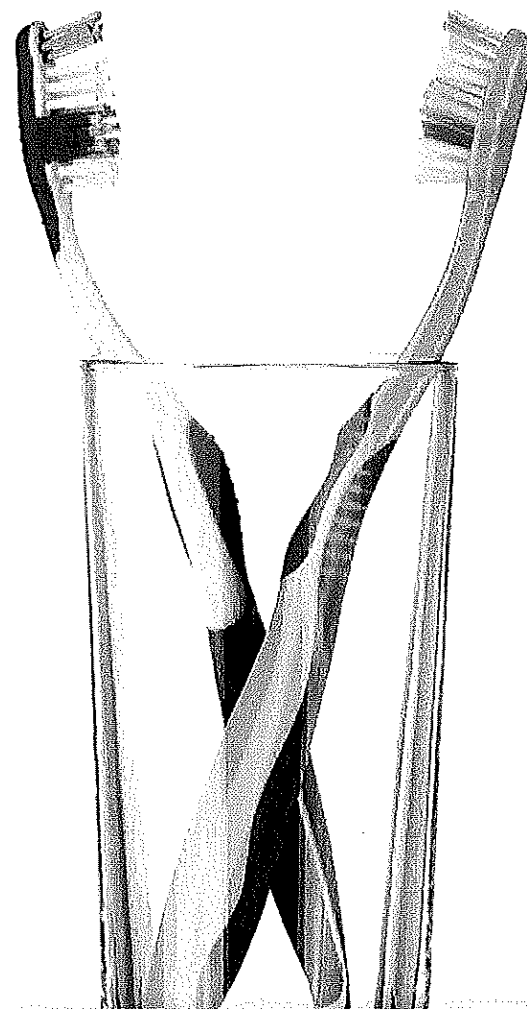
vsp.com
800-877-7195
Group Number: 12022518

Print Your VSP Card Online

If you would like an enrollment card to present to your vision provider, you may print a card through the VSP website. After you are enrolled in the vision plan, visit vsp.com, complete the login process and click on **My Member Vision Card**. If you are enrolling in the vision plan for the first time, wait until July 1 to access the site.

See Page 15 to view the in-network and out-of-network benefits for the dental and vision plans.

¹View detailed eligibility and documentation requirements at:
das.ohio.gov/EligibilityRequirements.



For Union-Represented Employees

Union-represented employees receive dental, vision, life and legal plan benefits through Union Benefits Trust (UBT).

The UBT Enrollment Guide will be mailed to union members' homes. The guide includes enrollment/change forms for dental, vision and legal plans. For supplemental life insurance, a separate mailing from Prudential will arrive during the same period. For more information, please visit benefitstrust.org.

DELTA DENTAL PLAN FOR EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

| | Delta Dental PPO Dentist | Delta Dental Premier Dentist | Non-Delta Dental Dentist* |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Annual Maximum | \$1,500 | \$1,500 | \$1,500* |
| Diagnostic and Preventive Services | 100% | 100% | 100%* |
| Basic Restorative Services (e.g., fillings) | 100% | 65% | 65%* |
| Major Restorative Services (e.g., crowns, bridges) | 60% | 50% | 50%* |
| Orthodontia | 50% up to \$1,500 lifetime maximum | 50% up to \$1,500 lifetime maximum | 50% up to \$1,500* lifetime maximum |

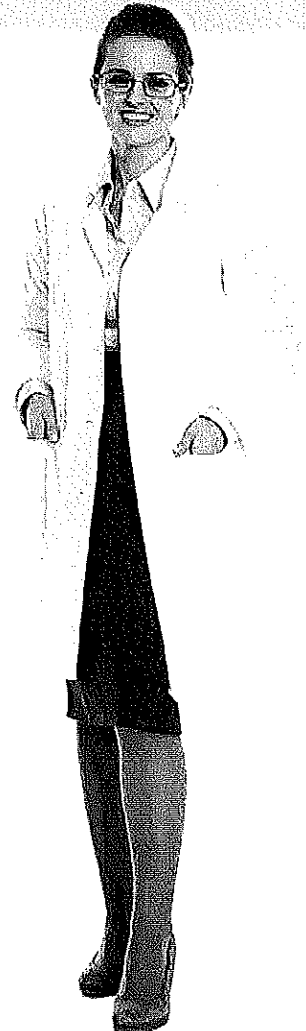
Deductible – \$25 deductible per person total per benefit year. The deductible does not apply to diagnostic and preventive services, emergency palliative treatment, X-rays, periodontal maintenance (cleaning) and orthodontic services.

There is a separate \$1,000 lifetime maximum on dental implants.

*Delta Dental will pay up to the allowed amount or the maximum allowable charge for providers in your area. You can be balance billed by non-Delta Dental providers for any amount that exceeds the allowable amount. Network providers cannot balance bill you for the difference between their charge and Delta Dental's allowed amount.

VISION SERVICE PLAN (VSP) FOR EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

| Service | In-Network | Out-Of-Network |
|--|---|--|
| Routine Exam/Frame/ Lens Frequency | 1 every 12 months | |
| Routine Exam/ Professional Fees | Plan pays 100% after \$10 copay. | You pay \$10 copay, then plan pays maximum of \$25. |
| FRAMES | Plan pays 100% up to \$120 retail. | Plan pays maximum benefit of \$18. |
| MATERIALS/LENSES | You pay \$15 copay, then plan pays maximum benefit of: | |
| Single Vision Lenses | Plan pays 100% after \$15 copay. | \$25 |
| Bifocal Lenses | | \$35 |
| Progressive Lenses | | \$52 |
| Trifocal Lenses | | \$52 |
| Lenticular Lenses | | \$62 |
| Polycarbonate Lenses | | \$0 |
| CONTACT LENSES | Plan pays maximum of \$125 plus standard eye exam. | |
| Elective (Instead of Lenses and Frames) | | |
| Medically Necessary | Plan pays 100% plus standard eye exam. | Plan pays maximum of \$125 plus standard eye exam. |



Life Insurance

FOR EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

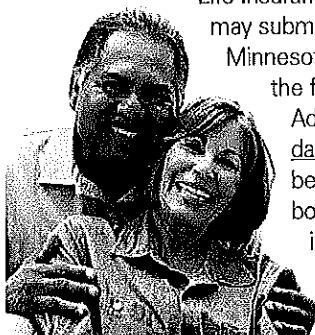
Exempt Basic Life Insurance

The State of Ohio pays the cost for eligible exempt employees to participate in the basic life plan. Eligible exempt employees are automatically enrolled in the basic life plan after one year of continuous state service. The coverage includes an accidental death and dismemberment benefit for work-related injuries. This benefit – equal to your annualized rate of pay rounded to the next highest \$1,000 – is provided to you at no cost.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requires that employees be taxed on the value of employer-paid group life insurance coverage exceeding \$50,000. This is known as "imputed income." If your annualized rate of pay (and thus your group life insurance) exceeds \$50,000 per year, the tax you owe on the value of the coverage that exceeds \$50,000 is reported to the IRS in Box 12 of your year-end W-2 form. The tax is based upon employee age brackets on the last day of the calendar year and increases in five-year increments as you grow older. See the imputed income rate chart below.

Beneficiary Forms

You may designate one or more beneficiaries for your basic and supplemental life benefits by visiting the Minnesota Life website at lifebenefits.com. For logon instructions, see Page 17 under Life Insurance for exempt employees. Or you may submit a beneficiary form by mail to Minnesota Life. This form is available in the forms section of the DAS Benefits Administration website, located at das.ohio.gov/HealthPlanForms. Your beneficiary elections will apply to both your basic and supplemental life insurance benefits.



IRS BASIC LIFE IMPUTED INCOME CHART
(Monthly Cost Per \$1,000 of Coverage in Excess of \$50,000)

| AGE | COSTS |
|-----------------|--------|
| Younger than 25 | \$0.05 |
| 25 through 29 | \$0.06 |
| 30 through 34 | \$0.08 |
| 35 through 39 | \$0.09 |
| 40 through 44 | \$0.10 |
| 45 through 49 | \$0.15 |
| 50 through 54 | \$0.23 |
| 55 through 59 | \$0.43 |
| 60 through 64 | \$0.66 |
| 65 through 69 | \$1.27 |
| 70 and older | \$2.06 |

Exempt Supplemental Life Insurance

Exempt employees are eligible to purchase supplemental life insurance coverage, provided by Minnesota Life. This coverage is entirely employee-paid, and can be purchased within 90 days of employment or upon becoming an exempt employee with no waiting period. When you enroll for coverage, you also may elect life insurance for your eligible dependents. The amount you contribute toward your supplemental and dependent life coverage is deducted from your paycheck. See Page 17 for plan contact information and initial logon credentials.

For Yourself

At Open Enrollment, if you do not already have supplemental life coverage, you may purchase up to the lesser of two times your annualized earnings or \$150,000 without evidence of insurability. If you have existing coverage, you may increase coverage by up to the lesser of two times your annualized earnings or \$150,000 without evidence of insurability.

The maximum amount of coverage available is the lesser of eight times your annualized earnings or \$600,000. If your coverage election exceeds the non-medical limits described above, evidence of insurability will be required. Coverage above the non-medical limits will become effective once evidence of insurability is approved by Minnesota Life. Outside of open enrollment, supplemental life coverage may not be increased without a qualifying life event. If you experience a qualifying life event, you must submit your request within 31 days of the associated life event. For questions regarding a qualifying life event, call Minnesota Life. See Page 17 for contact information.

For Your Spouse

You may purchase supplemental life insurance for your spouse in \$10,000 increments up to \$40,000. Spousal coverage in excess of \$10,000 requires your spouse to provide evidence of insurability.

For Your Dependent Children

You may purchase \$7,000 of life coverage for each of your eligible dependent children younger than age 26 at a rate of \$0.82 cents per month, regardless of how many children you cover. You are responsible for dropping your dependent's coverage when your child reaches age 26.

Cancelling or Reducing Coverage

You may cancel or reduce your employee or dependent supplemental life insurance coverage at any time throughout the year by submitting a written request to Minnesota Life. Coverage will be cancelled or reduced effective the first of the month after your request is received and processed by Minnesota Life. Once coverage is cancelled or reduced for either yourself and/or your dependents, evidence of insurability will be required for any future enrollment for supplemental life coverage, including during open enrollment and qualifying life events. You may be required to submit medical documentation and your coverage election may be approved or rejected by Minnesota Life based upon medical underwriting results.

Health and Other Benefits Contacts

ALL EMPLOYEES

Medical

Aetna
800-949-3104
aetnastateohioemployee.com
Group Number: 285507

Anthem
844-891-8359
enrollment.anthem.com/stateofohio
Group Number: 004007521

Medical Mutual of Ohio
800-822-1152
stateofohio.medmutual.com
Group Number: 228000

Prescription Drug

OptumRx (formerly Catamaran)
866-854-8850
OptumRx.com
Rx Group Number: STOH

Behavioral Health and Substance Use

Optum Behavioral Solutions
800-852-1091
liveandworkwell.com
Website Access Code: 00832

Ohio Employee Assistance Program
800-221-6327
ohio.gov/eap

Take Charge! Live Well!

Healthways
866-556-2288
ohio.gov/tclw
Click the Healthways website button.

24-Hour Nurse Advice Line

Healthways
866-556-2288, Option 1

Flexible Spending Accounts and Commuter Choice

WageWorks
855-428-0446
wageworks.com

EXEMPT EMPLOYEES ONLY

Dental

Delta Dental of Ohio
800-524-0149
deltadentaloh.com
Delta Dental PPO
Group Number: 9273-0001

Vision

Vision Service Plan (VSP)
800-877-7195
vsp.com
Group Number: 12022518

Life Insurance

Basic Life Insurance and Supplemental Life Insurance
Minnesota Life
866-293-6047
lifebenefits.com
Group Number: 34301
Initial logon credentials for life insurance: The initial user ID is "OH" plus your State of Ohio User ID. The initial password is your date of birth (MMDDYYYY) plus the last four digits of your Social Security Number.

UNION-REPRESENTED EMPLOYEES ONLY

Union Benefits Trust

614-508-2255
800-228-5088
benefitstrust.org

The websites of the Union Benefits Trust (UBT) vendors listed below can be accessed through the UBT website.

Dental

Delta Dental of Ohio
877-334-5008
Group Number: 1009

Vision

Vision Service Plan (VSP)
800-877-7195
Group Number: 12022914

EyeMed Vision Care
866-723-0514
Group Number: 9674813

Life Insurance

Prudential Life Insurance
800-778-3827
Group Number: LG-01049

Work/Life Program

Working Solutions Program
800-358-8515
Group Number: 4718

Legal Services

Hyatt Legal Services
800-821-6400
Group Number: 4900010



TIP:

When placing your calls, please ensure you have the documentation you might need during the call:

- Group Number
- State of Ohio User ID
- Explanation of Benefits if call is regarding a claim.

Ohio Department of Administrative Services

HR Customer Service

614-466-8857 (option 2) / 800-409-1205 (option 2)

HRCustomerService@das.ohio.gov
das.ohio.gov/benefits

Legal Notices

State of Ohio
Employee Health Plans
30 E. Broad St., 27th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

Effective April 1, 2016

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION.

PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

This Notice of Privacy Practices describes the privacy practices of the State of Ohio's self-funded medical plans, prescription drug plan, behavioral health plan, population health management plan, dental plans, vision plans, health care spending account, (but not dependent care flexible spending account) which are administered by the State of Ohio, Department of Administrative Services, Office of Benefits Administration Services (collectively "the Plan"). The Plan is required by the privacy regulations issued under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA") to maintain the privacy of Protected Health Information (PHI), and to provide individuals with notice of the legal duties and privacy practices with respect to protected health information and to abide by the terms of the notice currently in effect.

Position on Privacy

The Plan is committed to maintaining the privacy of its enrolled persons. As part of your participation in the health plans, the Plan and its business associates (whom we use to administer and deliver health care services) receive health information through the operation and administration of the plans. PHI refers to any information, transmitted or maintained in any form or medium, which the Plan creates or receives that relates to your physical or mental health, the delivery of health care services to you or payment for health care services that identifies you or could reasonably be used to identify you. PHI and other Plan records are maintained in compliance with applicable State and federal laws.

If you have questions about this notice, please contact the Plan's HIPAA Privacy Contact listed on Page 20.

How the Plan May Use or Disclose Your Protected Health Information

The Plan may only use or disclose your medical information as described in this notice. Not every authorized use or disclosure in each category is listed, however all permitted uses and disclosures fall into one of these general categories.

1. Uses and Disclosures of Your PHI for Treatment, Payment, and Health Care Operations

For Treatment. The Plan may make requests, uses, and disclosures of your PHI as necessary for treatment purposes. For example, the Plan may make disclosures to your health plan regarding eligibility, or make disclosures to health care professionals involved in your care.

For Payment. The Plan may make requests, uses, and disclosures of your PHI as necessary for payment purposes. For

example, the Plan may use information regarding your medical procedures and treatment so the third party administrator can process and pay claims. The Plan may also disclose your PHI for the payment purposes of a health care provider or a health plan.

For Health Care Operations Purposes. The Plan may use and disclose your PHI as necessary for health care operations. For example, Health Care Operations include, but are not limited to, use and disclosures: by health plan of PHI to the Plan for administration of the health plans; for quality assessment of the plans through the distribution and analysis of satisfaction surveys; in connection with the performance of disease management functions; and for general administrative activities, including customer service, cost management, data management, communications, claims and operational audits, and legal services. In addition, a health plan may send you information based on your own health information to inform you of possible treatment options or alternatives that may be available to you. The Plan may also combine your health information with that of other enrolled persons to evaluate the coverage provided and the quality of care received.

2. Other Uses and Disclosures of PHI for Which Your Authorization is Not Required

In limited instances, the law allows the Plan to use and disclose your PHI without your authorization in the following situations:

- A. **As Required By Law.** The Plan may disclose your PHI when required by federal, state or local law.
- B. **Family and Individuals Involved in Your Care.** The Plan may disclose medical information about you to a family member or friend who is involved in your medical care. The Plan may request that your family members verify their identity and demonstrate they are acting on your behalf.
- C. **To Avert a Serious Threat to Health or Safety.** The Plan may disclose medical information about you when necessary to prevent a serious threat to your health and safety or the health and safety of the public.
- D. **Public Health Activities.** The Plan may use and disclose medical information about you for public health activities including activities related to preventing and controlling disease or, when required by law, to notify public authorities concerning cases of use or neglect.
- E. **Victims of Abuse, Neglect, or Domestic Violence.** The Plan may disclose medical information to a government authority, including a social service or protective agency if the Plan reasonably believes you to be a victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.
- F. **Health Oversight Activities.** The Plan may disclose medical information to a health oversight agency for oversight activities authorized by law, such as: overall health care system monitoring, monitoring the conduct of government programs, and monitoring to ensure compliance with civil rights laws.
- G. **Lawsuits/Legal Disputes.** The Plan may use and disclose medical information about you in the course of an

Legal Notices

administrative or judicial proceeding, such as in response to a subpoena, discovery request, warrant, or a lawful court order.

- H. **Law Enforcement Purposes.** The Plan may disclose medical information to law enforcement officials for law enforcement purposes including investigation of a crime or to identify or locate a suspect, fugitive, material witness or missing person.
- I. **Specialized Government Functions.** The Plan may disclose medical information to authorized federal officials for the purposes of intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities authorized by law.
- J. **Military.** If you are a member of the armed forces, the Plan may disclose medical information about you as required by military command authorities.
- K. **Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation.** If you are an organ donor, the Plan may disclose information to organizations that handle organ procurement or organ, eye or tissue transplantation or to an organ donation bank, as necessary to facilitate organ or tissue donation and transplantation.
- L. **Workers' Compensation.** The Plan may disclose medical information about you for workers' compensation or similar programs that provide benefits for work-related injuries or illness.
- M. **Coroners, Medical Examiners, and Funeral Directors.** The Plan may disclose medical information to a coroner or medical examiner to, for example, identify a deceased person or determine the cause of death. The Plan may also disclose medical information about patients to funeral directors as necessary to carry out their duties.
- N. **Business Associates.** The State contracts with parties who provide necessary services for the operation of its plans. For example, the Plan is assisted in its operations by third party administrators. These persons who assist the Plan are called business associates. At times, the Plan may use and disclose PHI so they can provide services. The Plan will require that any business associates who receive PHI safeguard the privacy of that information.
- O. **Disclosure to You.** The Plan may disclose your medical information to you.

3. Other Uses and Disclosures of PHI Requiring Your Written Authorization

In all situations other than those described previously, the Plan will ask for your written authorization before using or disclosing your PHI. For example, (except as required or permitted by law), the Plan will not use or disclose psychotherapy notes or sell your medical information without obtaining your prior written authorization. If you have provided authorization, you may revoke it in writing at any time, unless the Plan has already disclosed the information.

4. Changes to Existing Laws

Certain provisions of Ohio law may impose greater restrictions on uses and/or disclosures of PHI, or otherwise be more stringent

than federal rules protecting the privacy of PHI. If such provisions of Ohio law apply to a use or disclosure of PHI or under other circumstances described in this notice, the Plan must comply with those provisions.

Your Legal Rights

Federal privacy regulations provide you the following rights associated with your medical information:

Right to Request Restrictions. You have the right to request a restriction or limitation on the medical information the Plan uses or discloses about you for treatment, payment or health care operations. You also have the right to request a limit on the medical information we disclose about you to someone who is involved in your care or the payment for your care, like a family member or friend. (For example, you could ask that the Plan not disclose or use information about a certain medical treatment you received.) **The Plan is not required to agree to your request.** To request restrictions on the use or disclosure of your PHI, you must make your request in writing to the Plan's HIPAA Privacy Contact listed below. In your request, you must explain: (1) what PHI you want to limit; (2) whether you want to limit the Plan's use, disclosure, or both; and, (3) to whom you want the limits to apply (for example, your spouse).

Right to Request Confidential Communications. You have the right to request that we communicate with you about medical matters in a certain way or at a certain location. For example, you can ask that we only contact you at a specific phone number or address. To request confidential communications, you must make your request in writing to the Plan's HIPAA Privacy Contact listed below. The Plan will accommodate all reasonable requests. Your request must specify how or where you wish to be contacted. After the Plan receives your request, the information may be forwarded to your health plan. As a result, additional reasonable information may be required from you by your plan to process the request.

Right to Inspect and Copy Your Information. You have the right, in most cases, to inspect and copy medical information that may be used to make decisions about your care. To inspect and copy medical information that may be used to make decisions about you, you must submit your request in writing to the Plan's HIPAA Privacy Contact listed below. If you request a copy of the information, the Plan may charge a fee for the costs of copying, mailing, or other unusual supplies associated with your request. Under Ohio and federal law, the Plan may deny your request to inspect and copy in certain very limited circumstances. If you are denied access to medical information, you may request that the denial be reviewed.

Right to Request an Amendment. If you feel that medical information about you is incorrect or incomplete, you may ask the Plan to amend the information. You have the right to request an amendment for as long as the information is kept. To request an amendment, your request must be made in writing and submitted to the Plan's HIPAA Privacy Contact listed below. You must provide reasons that support your request. If the Plan denies your request for any reason under state or federal law, the Plan will

Legal Notices

permit you to submit a written statement of disagreement to be kept with your PHI. The Plan may reasonably limit the length of such statement of disagreement.

Right to an Accounting of Disclosures. You have the right to request an "accounting of disclosures." This is a list of certain disclosures the Plan has made of medical information about you. This accounting will not include many routine disclosures including, but not limited to, those made to you or pursuant to your authorization, those made for treatment, payment and operations purposes as discussed above, those made for national security and intelligence purposes, and those made to law enforcement in compliance with law.

To request this list or accounting of disclosures, you must submit your request in writing to the Plan's HIPAA Privacy Contact listed below. Your request must state the time period that may not be longer than six (6) years prior to the date on which the accounting is requested. Your request should indicate in what form you want the list (paper or electronic). The first list you request within a 12-month period will be free. For additional lists, the Plan may charge you for the costs of providing the list. The Plan will notify you of the cost involved and you may choose to withdraw or modify your request at that time before any costs are incurred.

Right to a Paper Copy of this Notice. You have the right to a paper copy of this notice even if you have received it electronically. You may make your request to the Plan's HIPAA Privacy Contact below.

Right to Breach Notification. You have the right to notification if a breach of your unsecured PHI has occurred.

This Notice Is Subject To Change

The Plan reserves the right to change the terms of this notice and its privacy practices at any time. If such a change is made, the new terms and policies will be effective for all of the information that the Plan has about you as well as any information it may hold about you in the future, and will be posted at das.ohio.gov and may be provided by mail if required. If you want to ensure you have the latest version of this notice, you may contact the Plan's HIPAA Privacy Contact listed below.

Whom to Contact

If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the Plan's HIPAA Privacy Contact listed below or with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

To file a complaint with the Secretary of US Department of Health and Human Services, contact the

Office of Civil Rights

US Department of Health and Human Services
233 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 240
Chicago, IL 60601.

Complaints must be submitted in writing. You will not be penalized or retaliated against for filing a complaint.

Questions regarding this Notice may be directed to the Plan's HIPAA Privacy Contact:

DAS -- HIPAA Privacy Contact

30 E. Broad St., 27th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-466-6205; email: gregory.pawlack@das.ohio.gov

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO ELECT COBRA CONTINUATION COVERAGE

What is COBRA Continuation Coverage?

On April 7, 1986, a federal law was enacted (Public Law 99-272, Title X) requiring that most employers sponsoring group health plans offer employees and their families the opportunity for a temporary extension of health coverage (called "continuation coverage") at group rates in certain instances where coverage under the plan would otherwise end. This notice is intended to inform you, in a summary fashion, of your rights and obligations under the continuation coverage provisions of the law. You, your spouse and dependent children, if any, should all take the time to read the entire notice carefully.

COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when coverage would otherwise end because of a life event known as a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed later in this notice. After a qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage must pay for COBRA continuation coverage.

If you are an employee, you will become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because either one of the following qualifying events happens:

- Your hours of employment are reduced, or
- Your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.

If you are the spouse of an employee, you will become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because any of the following qualifying events happens:

- Your spouse dies;
- Your spouse's hours of employment are reduced;
- Your spouse's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); or
- You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.

Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage under the Plan because any of the following qualifying events happens:

- The parent-employee dies;
- The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;

Legal Notices

- The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both);
- The parents become divorced or legally separated; or
- The child stops being eligible for coverage under the plan as a "dependent child."

**If a covered child of the employee is enrolled in the plan pursuant to a qualified medical child support order (QMCSO) during the employee's period of employment, he or she is entitled to the same rights under COBRA as if he or she were the employee's dependent.*

When is COBRA Coverage Available?

The Plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to qualified beneficiaries only after the Plan Administrator has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. When the qualifying event is the end of employment or reduction of hours of employment, death of the employee, or the employee is becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), the employer must notify the Plan Administrator of the qualifying event.

You Must Give Notice of Some Qualifying Events

For the other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs. You must provide this notice to your employer.

How is COBRA Coverage Provided?

Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage. When the qualifying event is the death of the employee, the employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), your divorce or legal separation, or a dependent child's losing eligibility as a dependent child, COBRA continuation coverage lasts for up to a total of 36 months. When the qualifying event is the end of employment or reduction of the employee's hours of employment, and the employee became entitled to Medicare benefits less than 18 months before the qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage for qualified beneficiaries other than the employee lasts until 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement. For example, if a covered employee becomes entitled to Medicare 8 months before the date on which his employment terminates, COBRA continuation coverage for his spouse and children can last up to 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement, which is equal to 28 months after the date of the qualifying event (36 months minus 8 months). Otherwise, when the qualifying event is the end of employment or reduction of the employee's hours

of employment, COBRA continuation coverage generally lasts for only up to a total of 18 months. There are two ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage can be extended.

Disability: The 18 months may be extended to 29 months if a qualified beneficiary is determined by the Social Security Administration to be disabled (for Social Security disability purposes) at any time during the first 60 days of COBRA coverage. This 11-month extension is available to all individuals who are qualified beneficiaries due to a termination or reduction in hours of employment.

To benefit from this extension, a qualified beneficiary must notify the Plan Administrator or designated Plan Service Provider of the disability determination on or before 60 days from the COBRA start date, and before the end of the original 18-month period. If you do not notify the Plan Administrator or the designated Plan Service Provider within the required period of time, you may lose your right to the extension.

The affected individual must also notify the Plan Administrator or designated Plan Service Provider within 30 days of any final disability determination that the individual is no longer disabled. Coverage will end on the first of the month, following at least 30 days after the date of the Social Security final disability determination letter.

Second qualifying event extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage: If your family experiences another qualifying event while receiving 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if notice of the second qualifying event is properly given to the Plan. This extension may be available to the spouse and any dependent children receiving continuation coverage if the employee or former employee dies, becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), or gets divorced or legally separated, or if the dependent child stops being eligible under the Plan as a dependent child, but only if the event would have caused the spouse or dependent child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first qualifying event not occurred.

Your Election Rights: When the Plan Administrator or designated Plan Service Provider is notified that one of these events has happened, they will in turn notify you that you have the right to choose continuation coverage. Under the law, you have at least 60 days from the date you would lose coverage (because of one of the events described above) to inform the Plan Administrator or the designated Plan Service Provider that you want continuation coverage. If you do not choose continuation coverage in a timely manner, your group health insurance coverage will end.

Coverage Rights: If you choose continuation coverage, the Plan is required to give you coverage which, as of the time coverage is being provided, is identical to the coverage provided under the plan to similarly situated employees or family members. Each covered person will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA

Legal Notices

continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

Maximum Period of Coverage: The law requires that you be afforded the opportunity to maintain continuation coverage for 36 months unless you lost group health coverage because of a termination of employment (for reasons other than gross misconduct) or reduction in hours. In that case, the required continuation coverage period is 18 months. These 18 months may be extended for affected individuals to 36 months from termination of employment if other events (such as a death, divorce, legal separation, or Medicare entitlement) occur during that 18-month period. In no event will continuation coverage last beyond 36 months from the date of the event that originally made a qualified beneficiary eligible to elect coverage.

California State Residence: Under California law, you may be eligible for a State mandated extension of benefits after your federally mandated COBRA period expires. California State laws allow an extension of COBRA benefits to a total of 36 months from the date of your qualifying event to Qualified Beneficiaries who begin COBRA coverage on or after January 1, 2003. You will be notified of this extension at the conclusion of your original COBRA coverage.

Flexible Spending Account or Medical Reimbursement

Account: If you are participating in the company's Flexible Spending Account or Medical Reimbursement Account at the time of your termination or reduction of hours, you may also have the right to continue participation under COBRA based on the following parameters:

1. You will be allowed to continue coverage for the remainder of the current plan year if you have a balance remaining in your account at the time of your termination or reduction in hours;
2. You will not be able to receive reimbursements in excess of your original election amount in the account; and
3. You make monthly payments in the same amount as your regular payroll deductions while you were an active employee.

Adding Dependents to COBRA Coverage: A child who is born to or adopted by the covered employee during a period of COBRA coverage will be eligible to become a qualified beneficiary. In accordance with the terms of the Plan and the requirements of federal law, these qualified beneficiaries can be added to COBRA coverage upon proper notification to the Plan Administrator or designated Plan Service Provider of the birth or adoption.

Expiration of COBRA Coverage: The law also provides that continuation coverage may be cut short for any of the following five reasons:

1. The state no longer provides group health coverage to any of its employees;
2. The premium for continuation coverage is not paid on time;
3. The qualified beneficiary becomes covered - after the date

he or she elects COBRA coverage - under another group health plan that does not contain any exclusion or limitation with respect to any pre-existing condition he or she may have;

4. The qualified beneficiary becomes entitled to Medicare after the date he or she elects COBRA coverage;
5. The qualified beneficiary extends coverage for up to 29 months due to disability and there has been a final determination that the individual is no longer disabled.

Limits to Pre-Existing Conditions: The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) restricts the extent to which group health plans may impose pre-existing condition limitations. These rules are generally effective for plan years beginning after June 30, 1997. HIPAA coordinates COBRA's other coverage cut-off rule with these new limits as follows:

- If you become covered by another group health plan and that plan contains a pre-existing condition limitation that affects you, your COBRA coverage cannot be terminated. However, if the other plan's pre-existing condition rule does not apply to you by reason of HIPAA's restrictions on pre-existing condition clauses, the Plan may terminate your COBRA coverage.
- You do not have to show that you are insurable to choose continuation coverage. However, continuation coverage under COBRA is provided subject to your eligibility for coverage; the Plan Administrator reserves the right to terminate your COBRA coverage retroactively if you are determined to be ineligible.

Insurance Premiums: Under the law, you may have to pay all or part of the premium for your continuation coverage. You may also be required to pay a 2% administration fee above the cost of the premiums. If you are disabled, you may be required to pay 150% of the premium during the 11-month extension period.

Grace Period: There is a grace period of 30 days for payment of the regularly scheduled premium.

Conversion Coverage: At the end of the 18-month, 29-month or 36-month continuation coverage period, qualified beneficiaries may be allowed to enroll in an individual conversion health plan provided a conversion health plan is available to active employees. Please read your health plan benefits booklet or Summary Plan Description regarding any option for conversion coverage after the expiration of COBRA coverage. If there is an option for conversion to an individual policy, follow the instructions provided to apply for the coverage, as it would be separate coverage, and would not simply be an extension of COBRA coverage.

If You Have Questions

This notice does not fully describe continuation coverage or other rights under the Plan. More complete information regarding such rights is available from the plan contact identified below and throughout the summary plan description. Questions concerning your Plan or your COBRA continuation coverage rights should be addressed to the contact or contacts identified below. For more information about your rights under Employee Retirement Income

Legal Notices

Security Act (ERISA), including COBRA, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in your area or visit the EBSA website at www.dol.gov/ebsa. (Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available through EBSA's website.)

Keep Your Plan Informed of Address Changes

In order to protect your family's rights, you should keep the Plan Administrator informed of any changes in the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to the Plan Administrator.

COBRA contact information

If you have any questions about your rights to COBRA continuation coverage, you should contact:

UnitedHealthcare

P.O. Box 221709
Louisville, KY 40252

Customer Care Center

Toll Free: (877) 237-8576
email : cobra_kyoperations@uhc.com
www.uhcservices.com

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA) NOTICE

Federal law requires that group health plans allow certain employees and dependents special enrollment rights when they previously declined coverage and when they have new dependents. This law, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) also addresses the circumstances under which treatment for medical condition may be excluded from health plan coverage.

The information in this notice is intended to inform you, in a summary fashion, of your rights and obligations under these laws. You, your spouse and any dependents should all take the time to read the entire notice carefully.

Special Enrollments: If you decline enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of having other health insurance or group health plan coverage at the time of your eligibility to participate, you may enroll yourself or your dependents at a future point, provided that you request enrollment within 31 days after your other coverage ends. In addition, if you have a new dependent as a result of a marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents, provided that you request enrollment within 31 days of such an event.

Obtaining Additional Information: If you need assistance in determining your rights under ERISA or HIPAA, you may contact your Plan Administrator or the U.S. Department of Labor by writing to the Chicago Regional office at 200 W. Adams Street, Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60606, or by calling the Department at 312-353-0900.

If you have questions about this notice, please contact your Plan Administrator listed below:

State of Ohio

Department of Administrative Services
Benefits Administration Services
Medical Plan Benefits Manager

30 E. Broad St., 27th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(800) 409-1205 (option 2)

Also, if you have changed marital status, or if you, your spouse or any other qualified dependents have changed addresses, please notify your local Human Resources Representative.

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND CANCER RIGHTS ACT OF 1998: NOTICE OF RIGHTS

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA) is a federal law that provides protections to patients who choose to have breast reconstruction in connection with a mastectomy. The terms of WHCRA provide:

A group health plan, and a health insurance issuer providing health insurance coverage in connection with a group health plan, that provides medical and surgical benefits with respect to a mastectomy shall provide, in a case of a participant or beneficiary who is receiving benefits in connection with a mastectomy and who elects breast reconstruction in connection with such mastectomy, coverage for:

1. all stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed;
2. surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance; and
3. prostheses and physical complications of all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedemas;

in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient. Such coverage may be subject to annual deductibles and coinsurance provisions as may be deemed appropriate and as are consistent with those established for other benefits under the plan or coverage.

If you have any questions about the State of Ohio's plans provisions relating to the Women's Health and Breast Cancer Rights Act of 1998, contact HR Customer Service at 614-466-8857 (option 2) or 800-409-1205 (option 2).

NEWBORNS' AND MOTHERS' HEALTH PROTECTION ACT

Under the provisions of The Women's and Newborns' Act, group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a Caesarean section. However, federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under federal

Legal Notices

law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

PATIENT PROTECTION

The Ohio Med PPO generally allows the designation of a primary care provider. You have the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in our network and who is available to accept you or your family members. For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, please see the contact numbers for Aetna, Anthem and Medical Mutual below.

For children, you may designate a pediatrician as the primary care provider.

You do not need prior authorization from Aetna, Anthem or Medical Mutual or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional in our network who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, contact Aetna, 800-949-3104; Anthem, 844-891-8359; or Medical Mutual, 800-822-1152.

CREDITABLE COVERAGE DISCLOSURE:

Important Notice from the State of Ohio About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with the State of Ohio and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

- Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
- The State of Ohio has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by OptumRx is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard

Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

When can you join a Medicare drug plan?

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7. However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

What happens to your current coverage if you decide to join a Medicare drug plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current State Of Ohio coverage will not be affected. The State of Ohio has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by OptumRx is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

Go to: das.ohio.gov/prescriptiondrug for more details on your prescription benefits.

If you decide to join a Medicare Drug Plan and drop your current state medical coverage, be aware that you and your dependents will not be able to get this coverage back unless you experience a qualifying event or sign up during Open Enrollment.

When Will You Pay A Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You should also know that if you drop or lose your current coverage with the State of Ohio and don't join a Medicare drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1 percent of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19 percent higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

For more information about this notice or your current subscription prescription drug coverage...

Contact the person listed below for further information at 800-409-1205 (option 2).

NOTE: You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and

Legal Notices

if this coverage through the State of Ohio changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

For more information about your options under Medicare prescription drug coverage...

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

- Visit: medicare.gov.
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the Web at: socialsecurity.gov or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).

July 1, 2016

State of Ohio

Ohio Department of Administrative Services
Benefits Administration Services
Prescription Drug Benefits Manager
30 E. Broad St., 27th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
800-409-1205 (option 2)



Glossary

When reviewing information about your health care coverage options, it is helpful to understand some of the basic terms and concepts.

Benefit Year/Plan Year: The 12-month period from July 1 through June 30 during which services are rendered and your deductible and coinsurance are accumulated.

Biometric Screening: A private screening with a health professional that provides a snapshot of your health. The screening includes cholesterol (total), HDL, LDL, blood glucose, blood pressure, height, weight and waist circumference.

Change in Status/Qualifying Event: A change in your life that allows you to enroll or make an adjustment to your existing coverage. Examples include marriage, divorce, birth of a child or a change in job status for you or a dependent.

Coinsurance: The percentage of eligible expenses that the health care plan pays after the annual deductible is met. For example, an 80 percent coinsurance rate means you pay 20 percent and the plan pays 80 percent.

Copay: A specified dollar amount you pay to a health care provider or pharmacy for eligible expenses such as office visits and prescriptions. Copays do not count toward your annual deductible.

Covered Person: The employee, the employee's spouse and/or dependent children who are eligible and enrolled under your health care plan.

Covered Services: Those services and supplies provided for the purpose of preventing, diagnosing or treating a medical condition, behavioral disorder, psychological injury or substance use addiction for which the plan will provide benefits.

Deductible: The amount you pay for eligible expenses each plan year before the plan begins to pay anything. This does not apply to preventive services covered at 100 percent.

Eligible Expense: The maximum amount on which payment is based for covered health care services. You may be required to pay a percentage of Eligible Expenses in the form of Coinsurance.

Employee Share or Contribution: The portion of the total premium that you pay through pre-tax payroll deductions for your coverage.

Exempt Employee: An appointment to a position not represented by a labor union. Employees are usually exempt from union representation because they are supervisors, in positions of a confidential or fiduciary nature or not in permanent appointments.

Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA): A type of savings account that provides the account holder with specific tax advantages. The account allows employees to contribute a portion of his or her regular earnings to pay for qualified expenses, such as for medical or dependent care. The two types of FSAs are health care spending accounts and dependent care spending accounts.

Out-of-pocket Maximum: The cap or maximum amount you pay for eligible out-of-pocket health care expenses during the plan year. After your out-of-pocket expenses reach the maximum, the plan pays 100 percent of any additional eligible expenses for the remainder of the plan year. There is a separate out-of-pocket maximum for prescription drugs.

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (also known as the Affordable Care Act or PPACA or simply ACA): The health reform legislation passed by Congress and signed into law in March 2010 by the president of the United States.

Preferred Provider Organization (PPO): A PPO is a medical plan that offers benefits at both network and non-network levels. When you enroll in the Ohio Med PPO, you may visit any doctor and receive benefits. However, the benefit is greater when you use network providers, but less when you use providers who are not part of the network.

State Share or Contribution: The portion of the total premium the State of Ohio pays to provide its employees with coverage.

Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC): A requirement of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the SBC is a concise four-page document that details simple and consistent information about health plan benefits and coverage. It will help you understand the basics of your coverage and allow you to compare any different coverage options you may have. It summarizes the key features of the plan, such as covered benefits, cost-sharing provisions, and limitations and exceptions. All insurance companies and group health plans must use the same standard SBC form. The SBC also contains a link to the required Uniform Glossary, which provides definitions of many commonly used health coverage and medical terms. For full details, visit das.ohio.gov/benefits. The SBC is listed along the right navigation pane under the Publications and Notices section.

Third-Party Administrator (TPA): An organization or company that processes claims and other aspects of employee benefits plans on behalf of an employer. For example, Aetna, Anthem and Medical Mutual will be the third-party administrators of the Ohio Med PPO beginning July 1, 2016.

Total Premium: The combination of the employee contribution and the state contribution.

Union-Represented Employee: Also known as a Bargaining Unit Employee, is represented by a labor union and covered by the terms of a collective bargaining agreement.

Well-Being 5 Survey: A confidential questionnaire that assesses your physical, emotional, financial and social health and how your lifestyle habits affect your overall well-being.

Well-Being Plan: A personalized summary of your overall well-being that offers personalized steps and recommendations.

Save the Dates

2016

May

- Open Enrollment begins May 2
- Open Enrollment ends May 13

June

- "Training Camp" Fitness Challenge ends June 12
- Benefit year ends June 30

July

- New benefit year begins July 1

October

- Flexible Spending Accounts Open Enrollment begins Oct. 17
- Flexible Spending Accounts Open Enrollment ends Oct. 28

November

- Great American Smokeout – Nov. 17

December

- Use your remaining Flexible Spending Accounts money by Dec. 31

2017

January

- New Flexible Spending Accounts plan year begins Jan. 1

February

- National Wear Red Day – Feb. 3

March

- 2016 Flexible Spending Accounts claims deadline – March 31



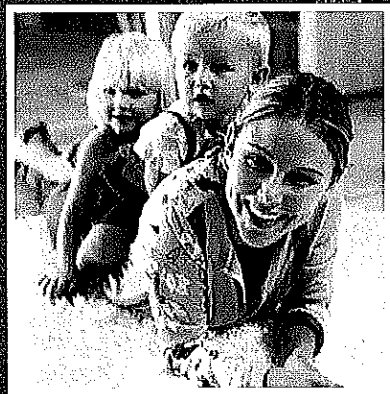


SERVICE · SUPPORT · SOLUTIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Ohio Department of Administrative Services
Human Resources Division
30 E. Broad St., 28th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES + THE JOINT HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

2016 OPEN ENROLLMENT MAY 2-13



OPEN ENROLLMENT 2016

WANT TO THROUGH MAY 13, 2016
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2017

OHIO MED PPO PLAN

□ Three administrators will manage the Ohio Med PPO plan

- Aetna (AT)
- Anthem (AM)
- Medical Mutual (AT)
- The rate will be the same for all administrators
- Employees will automatically be assigned to the correct administrator
- All employees will receive new ID cards

IMPORTANT ADMINISTRATOR HIGHLIGHTS

- ❑ Employee contributions- 'Family w/Spouse', 'Family w/o Spouse', and 'Single' rates will be the same with all administrators
- ❑ Major benefit levels- Co-pays, deductibles, and out-of-pocket maximums will be the same with all administrators

MEDICAL RATES

☐ Rates are increasing

| FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE MEDICAL DEDUCTIONS | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------|--|----------------|
| | FULL-TIME / BIWEEKLY PAID EMPLOYEE DEDUCTIONS ¹ | | FULL-TIME / MONTHLY PAID EMPLOYEE DEDUCTIONS ¹ | |
| | Employee Share | State Share | Employee Share | State Share |
| Single | \$40.90 | \$230.68 | \$271.58 | \$598.45 |
| Family Minus Spouse ² | \$111.92 | \$633.12 | \$745.04 | \$1,614.24 |
| Family Plus Spouse ² | \$117.69 | \$633.12 | \$750.81 | \$1,626.74 |

¹ These rates represent the total amount that will be deducted from your paycheck.
² Family Plus Spouse rates above include a charge of \$12.50 per month to cover a spouse.

| PART-TIME EMPLOYEE MEDICAL DEDUCTIONS | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------|--|----------------|
| | PART-TIME BIWEEKLY DEDUCTIONS ¹ 50% TIER | | PART-TIME BIWEEKLY DEDUCTIONS ¹ 0% TIER | |
| | Employee Share | State Share | Employee Share | State Share |
| Single | \$135.79 | \$135.79 | \$271.58 | \$0.00 |
| Family Minus Spouse | \$372.52 | \$372.52 | \$745.04 | \$0.00 |
| Family Plus Spouse ² | \$378.29 | \$372.52 | \$750.81 | \$0.00 |

¹ These rates represent the total amount that will be deducted from your paycheck.
² Family Plus Spouse rates above include a charge of \$12.50 per month to cover a spouse.

DEPENDENT ELIGIBILITY

☐ Dependents may receive medical coverage up to age 26

- No student requirements
- Dependents may be married
- No financial or residency requirements for step children

☐ HB1 dependents are no longer eligible for medical coverage

OPTUM RX PRESCRIPTION COVERAGE

☐ ID Cards

- All employees will receive new prescription cards from OptumRx

☐ Specialty medications

- Specialty medications for serious medical conditions must be obtained from Brivo Specialty Pharmacy.

☐ Preventative medications

- Certain preventative medications are required to be covered at no charge. All of these require a prescription and may have certain quantity and/or age restrictions.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

❑ Coverage is administered by Optum Behavioral Solutions

- The plan provides 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week phone assessment and referral services.

❑ All employees and dependents enrolled in the state's medical plan are eligible for behavioral health coverage

- Participants can visit any provider, but will pay more for out-of-network providers and facilities.

DENTAL AND VISION

- ☐ Only one dental and vision plan offered
 - Delta Dental PPO
 - Vision Service Plan (VSP)
- ☐ Dependent eligibility for dental and vision coverage is NOT the same as medical
 - Dependent children are eligible up to age 23
 - Student certification is required
- ☐ You do not have to be enrolled in medical coverage to enroll in dental and vision coverage

TAKE CHARGE! LIVE WELL!

□ Wellness program

- Well-being assessment
- Biometric screening

□ Assistance programs

- Weight loss management
- Tobacco management
- Diabetes management

SUPPLEMENTAL LIFE INSURANCE

- ☐ You can purchase coverage during the open enrollment period to supplement the basic life insurance coverage the state provides.
- ☐ Supplemental life insurance is administered by Minnesota Life Insurance Company and may be purchased through payroll deduction.
- ☐ Dependents may be covered until their 26th birthday.

OPEN ENROLLMENT WEBSITE

□DAS has provided detailed information on their website for the 2016 Open Enrollment. Please click on the link below to access the site:

<http://www.das.ohio.gov/OpenEnrollment>

QUESTIONS?

❑ If you have additional questions regarding your benefits, contact Jason Parsons at 466-4308.

Alexander, Steven

From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 6:19 PM
To: Alexander, Steven
Subject: Ohio Report, Monday, April 25, 2016
Attachments: Apr25.htm; Apr25House.htm; Apr25Senate.htm; 160425dayplan.htm



Ohio Report for Monday, April 25, 2016

House Education Panel To Examine Value-Added Report Card Measure

Bill To Extend Energy Freeze Introduced In Senate

Democrats Urge Feds To Reject Proposed 'Healthy Ohio' Medicaid Waiver

Gentile Heads Into Fall Election Cycle With Fundraising Lead Over Opponent; GOP Caucus Leaders Hold Huge Cash Advantage; DeWine Leads In High Court Funding

State Tax Credits Aimed At Creating, Keeping Total Of 1,066 Jobs

Sierra Club Pushes For Public Disclosure Of FirstEnergy PPA Projections

Kasich, Cruz Unveil Truce To Stop Trump; Billionaire Rips Plan

Court Briefs: Pike County Crime Scenes Also Sites Of Marijuana Growing Operations; Cleveland Settles Civil Suit With Family Of Tammir Rice

Agency Briefs: Auditor Says Village Of Lincoln Heights Doesn't Qualify For Fiscal Distress; ODH; EPA; CSRAB; BMV; MHAS

Capitol Scene: Willoughby Moves To AMP; SEIU, Boich Promote

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Activity Reports

House

Senate

Calendars

Day Planner

Please send all correspondence to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

Copyright, 2016, Gongwer News Service, Inc. All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without express permission from Gongwer News Service.



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Volume #85, Report #79 -- Monday, April 25, 2016

House Education Panel To Examine Value-Added Report Card Measure

The House Education Committee this week will begin a deep dive into a state report card measure that's been the subject of debate over its accuracy in determining how much students are improving each year.

The panel will consider for the first time what the chairman has described as a "placeholder bill" (HB 524) that allows for discussion of the value-added report card measure, which reflects how much academic progress students made over the course of a year.

The bill comes in response to recent attempts from some advocacy groups to push the state toward using another measure in addition to, or instead of, "value-added" so that students' progress can be better compared to peers who are similar to them as opposed to their own previous test results, Chairman Rep. Andy Brenner (R-Powell) said.

The Ohio Coalition for Quality Education, a charter school advocacy group, recently lobbied for an amendment in a Senate priority measure (SB 3) that would add the similar students measure to the state report card. It pushed for the same addition in a charter school overhaul bill (HB 2) last year. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 22, 2016)

While the former bill could still be a vehicle for potential report card changes, Rep. Brenner said he felt the value-added versus similar students debate deserved separate consideration for now.

"I think they need to be vetted in their own bill and I think we need to have various groups come in and explain why we're doing things the way we are and what's included in it and what the importance is for each," he said in an interview.

Department of Education staff, who have lauded value-added as the best indicator of student success that's being used in the country, will explain how it is calculated during the committee's Wednesday morning meeting.

Rep. Brenner said the panel, which could meet twice the following week to consider the bill, will eventually hear from the measure's creators from Battelle for Kids.

"Many groups want to know what really are the components so we have a better understanding of it," he said. "If they knew a little more about how (value-added) was calculated for instance, they might have a better understanding of what they need to adjust in their school to meet the growth measures."

OCQE has argued that value-added doesn't adequately evaluate schools that have highly mobile and impoverished students, which are often charters and those in urban communities. That's because it's based on how students did last year - possibly at a different school - and doesn't compare them to similar students attending schools that share demographics.

The Ohio 8 Coalition, which has raised similar concerns about report cards not reflecting the uniqueness of each school in the state, will be encouraged to take part in the committee's conversation on value-added, Rep. Brenner said.

Rep. Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell), who is sponsoring the measure with Rep. Bob Cupp (R-Lima), said he's not going into the process with preconceived notions about how to approach value-added or similar students measures.

"I don't have any goals necessarily; it's more of an education for me," he said in an interview. "If we find something that we think we need to do over and above value-added, I'm willing to have that conversation, but before we can get there we need to figure out how value-added measures work. I want to have a discussion with all parties involved because 1.8 million kids in the state are counting on us to get it right."

However, much like the Thomas B. Fordham Institute has found through its research, Rep. Smith said value-added is a "really good concept" because achievement can be measured individually and sometimes reflects how well a school is doing in helping students progress despite not seeing high test scores.

"What's important and I'm really interested in is making sure that every student is making progress, not necessarily all getting 100% on their tests, but that they're making progress from where they've started and that's why I think value-added is very intriguing to me because it levels the playing field," he said.

The Fordham Institute, which sponsors charter schools, recently released a report touting value-added as being the key to uncovering best practices in high-poverty urban schools. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 11, 2016)

Such schools universally receive low overall marks on state report cards, but some receive high value-added ratings, according to the report.

Per House Bill 2, which was enacted earlier this year, ODE is researching the similar students measure and is required to submit a report regarding its findings and recommendations by Dec. 1.

Rep. Brenner said the discussion about how to improve school report cards and the how data is being used in the long term could likely be continued through the Joint Education Oversight Committee.

Bill To Extend Energy Freeze Introduced In Senate

Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) on Monday introduced his much-awaited bill to extend the ongoing renewable energy mandates freeze by three years.

In its major components, the bill (SB 320) is much the same as a draft circulated by Sen. Seitz last week to gauge stakeholder input. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 13, 2016)

It maintains the draft's 2019 end date for the freeze, while eliminating compliance measurements for the years 2021-22, 2023-24, and 2026-27.

It also keeps intact draft language prohibiting any state agency from issuing certain guidelines on carbon dioxide emissions, electric dispatch protocols, natural gas utilization, or regulating the acquisition of renewable energy and more "without new and specific state statutory authority to do so."

Several interested parties on both sides of the issue said Monday they had not yet had time to examine the final bill, which was introduced late in the afternoon. But in addition to continuing the freeze, opponents have expressed concerns the draft version would water down the definition of energy efficiency and remove flexibility from the state's response to the Clean Power Plan.

The bill as introduced would expand the definition of energy efficiency to include post-consumer recycled glass by mercantile customers, consumer reductions in water usage, and improvements in wastewater treatment. It would also expand the consumer base eligible for opting out of energy efficiency programs.

Whether Gov. John Kasich would sign such a bill remains to be seen. The governor last year blasted the Energy Mandates Study Committee's recommendation to continue the freeze. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, September 30, 2015)

Governor's office spokesman Joe Andrews declined to comment in detail on the introduced bill, which he said could change by the time it hits the governor's desk.

But Mr. Andrews said the governor has been clear on his opinion on continuing the freeze. Gov. Kasich previously called the idea of an indefinite continuation "unacceptable."

When it comes to the idea of a three year extension, Mr. Andrews said the governor's reaction will be much the same.

"It's still kicking the can down the road," Mr. Andrews said.

At an April 19 campaign stop in Maryland, Gov. Kasich said he has "leverage" over lawmakers in the discussion, according to video from CSPAN.

"They're going to have to come with a commonsense plan because if they try to kill it we'll go back to the unattainable level that was set," Gov. Kasich said. "That's called leverage. I have leverage."

He urged promoting efficiency and renewables, while criticizing politicians for setting the standard "at a level we can't meet."

"So we want to have energy," he said. "The problem was the legislature got carried away at one point and our standards were 20 or 25% and they wanted to get rid of it. I said no, we're not going to do it. We'll reset it to fit the economy of Ohio."

Democrats Urge Feds To Reject Proposed 'Healthy Ohio' Medicaid Waiver

Democrats said Monday that a proposed Medicaid waiver to require participants to pay into an account is an effort to roll back the efforts after the Affordable Care Act to increase access to coverage.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) joined state lawmakers at a Statehouse news conference to oppose the so-called "Healthy Ohio" plan, which Sen. Brown said he is actively urging the federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services to reject.

"We're asking them to reject this application and say no to hiking costs for people all across Ohio," he said. "We're going to do all we can to deny the Ohio waiver because it clearly cuts at the heart of the Medicaid."



Sen. Brown

The state is required to pursue the waiver because of language written into the biennial budget bill (HB 64). It would create a five-year demonstration program in which about 1.5 million people on Medicaid are required to pay into a modified health savings account called a Buckeye Account in order to receive coverage. The participant's contributions to the account would be used to pay for co-pays. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 22, 2016)

Supporters of the program, including state Rep. Jim Butler (R-Oakwood), have said it will improve personal responsibility among people on Medicaid and create incentives for more people to take advantage of primary and preventative care.

Since the waiver was opened for public comment April 15, opponents have criticized it as a way in which legislators have tried to undo the progress of Medicaid expansion. Medicaid participants who don't make the required contributions to the Buckeye Account - 2% of their income up to \$99 per year - would lose coverage.

"I believe this could be a prescription for disaster for many of Ohio's most vulnerable, especially in the fact that it could create a serious setback to the health of many low-income Ohioans," Rep. Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) said Monday. "We run the risk of driving hard-working Ohioans away from preventative and maintenance care in a doctor's office and pushing them back into the emergency room."

"We must expose the Healthy Ohio waiver for the Trojan horse that it is," she added.

Rep. Antonio said the proposal is similar to one in Indiana that the state later rolled back.

"They went back on it because what they were finding was that the health outcomes were not helpful once they instituted the premiums," she said.

Rep. Butler, one of the architects of the plan, said the Healthy Ohio plan is similar to the original Indiana plan but with some changes. The Healthy Ohio program doesn't lock people out of reapplying for Medicaid if they lose coverage, he said, it allows people to regain coverage once they start making payments again. The Ohio program also allows people who move to private insurance to take the money in their Buckeye Account with them in a bridge account, he said.

Rep. Butler said the Indiana plan, which was implemented in 2008, was successful.

Without doing something to control costs in Medicaid, Rep. Butler said, the state could face financial struggles with rising costs.

"Doing nothing is not a plan," he said in a Friday interview. "I'm open to suggestions. Come with a solution rather than just spend more money, because that's just unsustainable."

Sen. Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Hts.) said he expected the Healthy Ohio program would lead to higher administrative costs for the state and wouldn't lead to the health outcomes Rep. Butler expects.

"When push comes to shove, we're going to see very little benefit of this for a whole lot of work," he said.

Rep. Antonio said the program could jeopardize coverage for new mothers, something that wouldn't help the state's high infant mortality rates.

Sen. Brown said the fact that some people would be kicked off of Medicaid means many would stay off of it and go back to using hospital emergency rooms without being able to pay the bills. That would cost everyone more money as hospitals go back to having to cover some of the nearly \$2.3 billion in uncompensated care from before the passage of the Affordable Care Act.

The proposal goes against the idea of Medicaid, he said.

"When people are rejected from something, that makes it that much more difficult to come back," Sen. Brown said. "The whole promise to people was we'll have a compact with you. You will show up for maintenance and preventative care as well as showing up when you have an acute crisis or health problem and we'll provide the care at no cost."

The comment period on the waiver runs through May 16. The final public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday at 2 p.m. in Cincinnati.

Gentile Heads Into Fall Election Cycle With Fundraising Lead Over Opponent; GOP Caucus Leaders Hold Huge Cash Advantage; DeWine Leads In High Court Funding

Republicans' top Senate target in this fall's elections has a commanding lead thus far in the money race.

Sen. Lou Gentile (D-Steubenville) has built a campaign war chest of \$428,401 in his bid to retain his seat in the 30th Senate District, according to post-primary campaign finance reports.

Post-primary reports include all activity from Feb. 25 to April 15.

Sen. Gentile spent just \$8,110 over that period, while raising \$102,251.

His opponent, Frank Hoagland, a retired Navy SEAL who owns START LLC in Mingo Junction, reported a balance of \$6,358 on hand. He raised \$9,624 and spent \$7,396.

Despite his cash shortcomings, Mr. Hoagland is expected to see a lot of support from the well-heeled Republican Senate Campaign Committee. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 22, 2016) Given the politically lopsided, non-competitive nature of most of the GOP-drawn Senate districts, the majority won't have a lot of choices on where to spend its considerable cash advantage.

After spending \$102,351 in his primary victory against Reps. Mike Dovilla (R-Berea) and Nan Baker (R-Westlake) in the 24th Senate District's primary election, former lawmaker Matt Dolan has just \$7,892 on hand, according to his filing. He received \$25,967 in donations during the period.

His Democratic opponent, Emily Hagan, staff attorney for Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judge Michael P. Donnelly, has \$68,904 on hand. She raised \$27,460 and spent \$3,750 during her uncontested primary election.

On the House side, in the race to replace term-limited Rep. Debbie Phillips (D-Albany) Republican Jay Edwards has a commanding fundraising lead, with \$42,852 on hand. He received \$4,600 in donations and spent just \$2,500 during his uncontested primary.

Democrat Sarah Grace has just \$1,742 on hand. She raised \$3,545 and spent \$6,738 in defeating fellow Democrat Eddie Smith in the primary election in the 94th House District.

In the race for the 89th House District seat, Rep. Steven Arndt (R-Port Clinton), who narrowly defeated former Rep. Chris Redfern during the previous election cycle, has a slight fundraising deficit over his Democratic challenger.

Rep. Arndt has \$2,442 on hand after raising \$5,300 and spending \$5,100. His challenger, Lawrence Hartlaub, has \$4,590 on hand. He raised \$3,135 and spent \$2,359.

In the race for the 95th House District seat, Belmont County Commissioner Ginny Favede holds a significant fundraising advantage over incumbent Rep. Andy Thompson (R-Marietta).

Ms. Favede has \$39,941 on hand. She raised \$11,092 and spent \$1,132. Rep. Thompson, meanwhile, has \$4,220 on hand. He raised \$5,360 and spent \$10,416.

Democrat Bobby McDowall holds a fundraising advantage over Rep. Anthony DeVitis (R-Green) in the race for the 36th House District seat, which the incumbent won with 52.5% of the vote in the last presidential cycle.

Mr. McDowall has \$13,974 on hand after raising \$6070 and spending \$2,258.

Rep. DeVitis has \$3,459 on hand. He raised \$10,115 and spent \$10,118.

Although he is expected to cruise to victory in his race against Democrat John Carlisle in the heavily conservative 72nd House District, former House Speaker Larry Householder has accumulated \$66,250 after spending \$75,187 and raising \$47,395.

Leadership: Republican leaders of both chambers have plenty of cash to spread around in the general election.

Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) has \$420,795 on hand after spending \$17,449.

He raised \$163,147, with his largest contributions - \$12,532 each - coming from Political Education Patterns and Cynthia and Wayne Boich.

He also received \$10,000 donations from the Ohio Health Care Association PAC; the Realtors PAC; GOPAC Election Fund; the PAC for Equine Racing; J.C. Huizenga; and Karen Wright.

House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) has \$178,648 on hand after spending \$27,615.

He received \$131,280 in contributions, including \$12,500 from FirstEnergy PAC, \$12,000 from the Realtors PAC and the Wholesale Beer and Wine Association PAC.

He also received donations of \$5,000 from Cardinal Health PAC; Marathon Petroleum Corporation Employees PAC; CCG PAC; and the Ohio State Chiropractic Association PAC.

His counterpart, Minority Leader Strahorn (D-Dayton), had \$2,593 on hand. He spent \$26,407 and raised \$23,525.

His largest contributions came from FirstEnergy PAC, which donated \$4,000, Laborers District Council of Ohio PAC, which donated \$2,500, and the Ohio Association for Justice, which also donated \$2,500.

Senate Minority Leader Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) did not file a post-primary campaign finance report.

Supreme Court: First District Court of Appeals Judge Pat DeWine, a Republican, has more cash on hand than the other three high court candidates combined.

Judge DeWine is sitting on a campaign war chest of \$538,602 after spending \$41,486 and raising \$74,780 during the most recent reporting period.

He faces Eleventh District Court of Appeals Judge Cynthia Rice in the general election. The Democrat has \$76,310 on hand. She spent just \$3,226 and raised \$26,850.

In the other race for an open seat Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judge John O'Donnell, a Democrat who lost a bid for a high court seat in 2014, has \$60,944 on hand. He spent \$23,043 and raised \$30,070.

His opponent, First District Court of Appeals Judge Pat Fischer, has \$29,220 on hand after spending \$121,579 to dispatch opponent Eleventh District Court of Appeals Judge Colleen Mary O'Toole in the Republican primary. He raised \$64,625 in the reporting period.

State Tax Credits Aimed At Creating, Keeping Total Of 1,066 Jobs

Seven business expansion projects were awarded an estimated total of about \$1.64 million in tax credits Monday under multi-year deals with the state that are expected to create 530 jobs and retain 536.

The Tax Credit Authority reported that the projects are expected to result in \$21,241,653 in new payroll and lead to \$24.1 million in additional investments.

The largest incentive, with an estimated value of \$590,000 contingent on the business meeting its growth targets and other factors, went to **EBTH.com LLC**, according to the state.

The online estate sale company received a 1.259%, seven-year Job Creation Tax credit to locate its business in a yet-to-be-determined site in the state. The company plans to create 275 full-time positions generating \$7.7 million in new annual payroll while retaining \$3.3 million in payroll, TCA reported.

The next largest tax credit, valued at an estimated \$428,000, went to **ATK Space Systems, Inc.**, a supplier of rocket motors and other space systems with locations in Kettering and Beavercreek. The

company projects it will create 68 full-time jobs with a consolidation involving the two locations, in the process creating \$4.3 million in payroll and retaining \$8 million in payroll, TCA reported. The authority awarded a 1.701%, seven-year JCTC for the project.

Other tax credits approved Monday went to (estimated tax value):

GENCO I, Inc. of Columbus, which expects to create 82 jobs generating \$3 million in new annual payroll with its new project. The logistic services provider received a 1.153%, six-year tax credit (\$192,000).

Ball Metal Food Container, LLC of Columbus plans 50 new full-time positions generating \$2.5 million in annual payroll while retaining \$10.8 million in payroll under an expansion. The TCA approved a 1.228%, six-year JCTC for the packaging manufacturer's project (\$184,000).

Cognitive Ventures, LLC of Dublin expects to create 17 positions and generate \$1.6 million in new payroll by locating in the Franklin County suburb. The concussion testing and management company received a 1.426%, six-year tax credit (\$116,000).

Risk International Services, Inc. of Fairlawn in Summit County plans to create 18 full-time jobs entailing \$1.3 million in payroll while retaining \$4 million in payroll under an expansion. The TCA awarded the risk management firm a 1.401%, six-year JCTC (\$100,145).

Rotex Global, LLC of Cincinnati expects to create 20 full-time positions generating \$867,616 in payroll and retain \$9.9 million in payroll with an expansion project. The provider of dry material screening equipment and technology was awarded a 0.722%, five-year tax credit (\$29,000).

Sierra Club Pushes For Public Disclosure Of FirstEnergy PPA Projections

The fallout of recently approved Power Purchase Agreements continues as FirstEnergy and the Sierra Club argue over whether confidential consumer cost estimates and revenue projections should be made public.

The debate is laid out in the latest filings in a case involving the PPA modified and approved March 31 by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 31, 2016)

In that order, the commission generally approved an eight-year plan for consumers to ensure profits on the company's aging power plants. Now PPA opponent Sierra Club is attempting to make public internal FirstEnergy projections the group says show how much the plan might cost customers.

The projections in question stem from the December testimony of Sierra Club witness Tyler Comings, a senior associate at Massachusetts-based Synapse Energy Economics Inc. In redacted portions of that testimony, according to FirstEnergy's PUCO filing, Mr. Comings discussed "a certain projection regarding the alleged cost of Rider RRS" over the terms of the Electric Security Plan.

The Sierra Club, in its own filing, referred to the information as a "projection of costs and revenues" under the rider "including a calculation of the net impact that the Rider RRS would have on customers over the eight-year term using FES's forecast of market prices."

On Friday, the Sierra Club moved to modify the existing protective order issued during prior proceedings, requesting the PUCO modify the order to allow the information to become public. It argues the projection would assist the public in understanding and interpreting the PUCO's recent order and that it's not dissimilar from previous information made public during the hearing process.

"This projection, which contains no plant-specific data, is not a trade secret and therefore should be removed from the scope of the commission's protective order," Sierra Club argued.

"Because disclosure of the FES projection would facilitate the public's review and understanding of the Commission's decision, and because this projection is not a trade secret, this information should be publicly released," the group continued.

In its own filing Friday, the company disagrees, accusing the group of "threatening" to release trade secrets. FirstEnergy's motion is for the PUCO to maintain its existing protective order, which it said would keep that projection outside the public domain.

"This projection was generated using inputted confidential and proprietary cost and revenue projections that FES provided to Sierra Club in response to a subpoena request," reads FirstEnergy's filing. "Disclosure of this material could economically harm FES by placing FES at a competitive disadvantage."

On April 15, Sierra Club attorneys wrote to FirstEnergy, advising the company it intended to make the information public "because they do not contain any trade secrets," according to copies of an email exchange submitted to the PUCO as an exhibit.

"Apparently frustrated with the Commission's decision, Sierra Club has now decided to resort to self-help and has threatened to insert this already protected information into the public domain," FirstEnergy argued in its filing.

That email kick-started the filings, prompting a PUCO attorney examiner to set a Tuesday deadline by which parties may file responses to the motions. No replies to those arguments will be considered, the examiner determined.

Kasich, Cruz Unveil Truce To Stop Trump; Billionaire Rips Plan

GOP frontrunner Donald Trump blasted Gov. John Kasich and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, accusing the two trailing Republicans of a desperate attempt at "collusion."

Mr. Trump's statement followed news that the Cruz campaign will lay off New Mexico and Oregon, allowing Gov. Kasich a clear shot at challenging Mr. Trump, while the Kasich camp agreed to cede Indiana to the senator.

The two haven't gone as far as to urge their supporters to vote for the other candidate - in contrast Gov. Kasich on Monday said his Indiana supporters "ought to vote for me" - but the pair has essentially agreed to not spend money in those respective states and are publicly urging their super PACs to do the same.

By doing so, the pair - each of which has been mathematically eliminated from seizing the nomination prior to a contested convention - hopes to launch a two-front attack that will block Mr. Trump from collecting the required 1,237 delegates.

"It is sad that two grown politicians have to collude against one person who has only been a politician for 10 months in order to try and stop that person from getting the Republican nomination," Mr. Trump said in his statement.

If successful, the gambit would force a contested convention, where both Sen. Cruz and Gov. Kasich believe they stand a shot at earning the nomination on the second ballot or beyond. But strategists for the two temporary allies were quick to say the truce only stands in those three states.

"Our goal is to have an open convention in Cleveland, where we are confident a candidate capable of uniting the party and winning in November will emerge as the nominee," Kasich Chief Strategist John Weaver said. "We believe that will be John Kasich, who is the only candidate who can defeat Secretary Clinton and preserve our GOP majority in the Congress."

Cruz Campaign Manager Jeff Roe, in his statement, said Mr. Trump would be a down-ballot "disaster" who would get "blown out" by either Democratic contender.

"To ensure that we nominate a Republican who can unify the Republican Party and win in November, our campaign will focus its time and resources in Indiana and in turn clear the path for Gov. Kasich to compete in Oregon and New Mexico, and we would hope that allies of both campaigns would follow our lead."

Mr. Trump, in response, said the Cruz campaign is "in free fall" and criticized Gov. Kasich for having fewer delegates than Sen. Marco Rubio who dropped out of the race more than one month ago.

"This horrible act of desperation, from two campaigns who have totally failed, makes me even more determined, for the good of the Republican Party and our country, to prevail!" Mr. Trump said.

The tight race, in which every delegate Mr. Trump earns could be the last inch he needs to cross the 1,237 delegate threshold, has shifted more importance toward late voting states like Indiana, which heads to the polls May 3.

Indiana has 57 delegates - 30 which go to the state winner, and 27 others allotted to winners by congressional district. Recent polling continues to show Gov. Kasich lagging in Indiana, making Sen. Cruz the more competitive of the two.

An April 20-22 CBS News/YouGov poll found Mr. Trump at 40%, Sen. Cruz at 35% and Gov. Kasich at 20%. An April 18-21 Fox News poll found Mr. Trump (41%) similarly leading Sen. Cruz (33%) and Gov. Kasich (16%). A WTHR/HPI poll showed Mr. Trump at 37%, followed by Sen. Cruz (31%) and Gov. Kasich (22%).

"Due to the fact that the Indiana primary is winner-take-all statewide and by congressional district, keeping Trump from winning a plurality in Indiana is critical to keeping him under 1,237 bound delegates before Cleveland," Mr. Weaver said. "We are very comfortable with our delegate position in Indiana already, and given the current dynamics of the primary there, we will shift our campaign's resources west and give the Cruz campaign a clear path in Indiana."

Tuesday: Recent polls show Gov. Kasich in second in four northeastern states voting this week, while he battles Sen. Cruz in an effort to reach second in Pennsylvania. In addition to the Keystone State, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maryland and Delaware vote Tuesday.

Recent Pennsylvania polls - from the left-leaning Public Policy Polling, CBS News/YouGov, and NBC/*Wall Street Journal*/Marist - show the governor in third, three or four points behind Sen. Cruz. In those polls, Sen. Cruz lags Mr. Trump by between 18-26 points. An April 21-24 poll from American Research Group showed Mr. Trump at 50%, Sen. Cruz at 23% and Gov. Kasich at 21%.

Rhode Island's recent polls show Gov. Kasich in a distant second. PPP's April 22-24 poll had him at 23%, down 38 points from Mr. Trump's 61% and 10 points above Sen. Cruz. Brown University, in an April 19-21 poll, found Mr. Trump at 38%, followed by Gov. Kasich (25%) and Sen. Cruz (14%).

In other states, PPP's April 22-24 Connecticut poll placed Mr. Trump at 59%, ahead of Gov. Kasich (25%) and Sen. Cruz (13%). An April 21-24 ARG poll of Maryland found Mr. Trump leading Gov. Kasich 55-21%, followed by Sen. Cruz (19%). And in Delaware, the only poll to date, conducted April 17-18 by Gravis, found Mr. Trump at 55%, Gov. Kasich at 18% and Sen. Cruz at 15%.

Vice President: The Kasich campaign recently began vetting potential vice presidential candidates, Gov. Kasich said in a Sunday CBS interview.

Asked whether he plans to unveil the VP candidate prior to the convention in order to make the Kasich ticket more attractive to delegates, Gov. Kasich didn't close the door on the idea.

"These things come quickly and you don't want to have yourself in a position where you've got to pick somebody out of a hat," Gov. Kasich said.

Endorsements: Endorsing Gov. Kasich in recent days were the *Baltimore Sun*, the *Philadelphia Enquirer*, the *Lewistown (Penn.) Sentinel*, and former Pennsylvania U.S. Rep. Melissa Hart. The campaign also expanded its Washington leadership team.

Court Briefs: Pike County Crime Scenes Also Sites Of Marijuana Growing Operations; Cleveland Settles Civil Suit With Family Of Tamir Rice

Three of the four Pike County locations at which law enforcement officials on Friday discovered the bodies of eight individuals housed marijuana growing operations, Attorney General Mike DeWine said at a news conference Sunday.

Mr. DeWine did not say the murders and the marijuana growing operations are linked. He said investigators have not ruled out the possibility that there was more than one killer involved.

He also cautioned that the investigation could be lengthy.

"This was a pre-planned execution of eight individuals. It was a sophisticated operation and those who carried it out were trying to do everything they could do to hinder the investigation and their prosecution," he said at the news conference.

Eighteen pieces of evidence are being analyzed for forensics and ballistics at the Bureau of Criminal Investigation crime lab, five search warrants have been executed, more than 50 people have been interviewed and more than 100 tips have been received about the case, according to Mr. DeWine.

Also over the weekend, the attorney general's office released the names of the victims, all of whom are members of the same family and ranged in age from 16 to 44. On Monday, the attorney general's office released a chart to explain the familial relationships of the victims.

Pike County Sheriff Charles Reader said at the news conference that he has spoken to remaining members of the family and advised them to be armed.

Cincinnati restaurant owner Jeff Ruby is offering a \$25,000 reward for information that results in the arrest and conviction of anyone involved in the killings.

The attorney general's office on Monday also announced that autopsies had been completed on all eight victims.

Anyone with information on the case is asked to call 1-855-BCI-OHIO or the Pike County Sheriff's Office at 740-947-2111.

Rice Settlement: The city of Cleveland and the family of Tamir Rice have reached a settlement in a civil suit over the shooting death of the 12-year-old boy.

The family will receive \$6 million over the course of two years, according to the settlement approved by U.S. District Judge Dan Polster. The settlement will also require the approval of a Cuyahoga County Probate Court judge.

Mr. Rice was killed by Cleveland police officer Timothy Loehmann in November 2014 after receiving reports of someone in a park with a gun. Mr. Rice was wielding a toy gun at the time of the shooting.

A grand jury late last year declined to bring any charges against Mr. Loehmann for the shooting. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 28, 2015)

The lack of charges has led some to call for changes to the grand jury process in Ohio in cases of officer-involved shootings. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 14, 2016)

A task force created by Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor to improve public confidence in the system is also exploring the issue. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 1, 2016)

In the wake of the settlement, the ACLU of Ohio called for reforms to the criminal justice system.

"Money alone cannot provide justice in the tragic death of this child," Executive Director Christine Link said in a statement. "The web of laws and practices that prevent accountability for police misconduct needs to be taken apart and replaced with concrete solutions to eliminate racial bias in the justice system. Merely paying for police misconduct without addressing the deeper issues will allow this behavior to continue year after year."

Agency Briefs: Auditor Says Village Of Lincoln Heights Doesn't Qualify For Fiscal Distress; ODH; EPA; CSRAB; BMV; MHAS

The Village of Lincoln Heights in Hamilton County doesn't meet the standards for fiscal distress status, State Auditor Dave Yost announced Monday.

Auditor Yost sent a team of auditors to the community April 21, and staff will continue to work in the village as part of its regularly scheduled financial audit.

The village did not meet the conditions for any of the three levels of fiscal distress - fiscal caution, fiscal watch or fiscal emergency - because it is current on pension obligations and its payables, including obligations to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, are within 30 days of being paid, according to the auditor's office.

"While the village's budget continues to be tighter than two coats of paint, it's paying its bills," Auditor Yost said in a statement. "The village doesn't meet the standards for any type of fiscal distress oversight. We have been and remain concerned about its fiscal health and will continue to monitor the situation."

Health: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued guidance for outdoor workers, mosquito control workers and business travelers to prevent exposure to the Zika virus, according to ODH.

Ohio has 10 confirmed cases of Zika involving people who returned from affected countries.

For outdoor workers, the CDC recommends workers use insect repellants, wear clothing that covers hands, arms, legs and other exposed skin and get rid of sources of standing water whenever possible. For mosquito control workers, the CDC also recommends they use protection to reduce exposure to hazardous chemicals.

Employers should consider giving business travelers flexibility when traveling to areas with active Zika transmission. The CDC also recommended that pregnant women not travel to any affected area, and that people who return to the U.S. from affected areas try to avoid mosquito bites for three weeks to prevent passing the virus to domestic mosquitoes.

"Workers who are exposed on the job to mosquitoes or the blood or other body fluids of infected individuals may be at risk for occupationally acquired Zika virus infection," ODH Medical Director Dr. Mary DiOrio said in a statement.

ODH will hold a workshop Tuesday to help local health departments and others prepare for mosquito season. The workshop will focus on monitoring and controlling mosquitoes who carry diseases such as Zika and West Nile Virus.

Ohio EPA: The EPA awarded grants totaling more than \$1.6 million to local governments to strengthen recycling and litter prevention efforts. The grants are designed to help expand curbside recycling programs and support infrastructure for recovery facilities.

Grant communities must commit to 50% matching funds.

The EPA also awarded grants for two projects to help companies develop markets for reusing scrap tires.

The agency awarded \$350,000 to Liberty Tire Services of Ohio LLC, in partnership with Jackson Township, to purchase scrap tire processing equipment. A \$50,000 grant went to the Cuyahoga County Soil and Water Conservation District and the St. Clair Superior Development Corporation to buy processing equipment to create geo cells made of scrap tire material.

Ohio Statehouse: The Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board will mark the 151st anniversary of the repose of President Abraham Lincoln's body in the Statehouse Friday with an event involving a group of Civil War reenactors who will provide an honor guard for a replica of the president's casket.

The event will take place in the rotunda from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The 1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery A reenactors will also hold a Civil War encampment on the grounds of the Statehouse, including cannon firings every half hour.

Bureau of Motor Vehicles: The BMV unveiled a new specialty license plate for female veterans, which was available starting Monday.

The plate is available for any woman currently serving or retired from the Marine Corps, Navy, Army, Air Force and Coast Guard.

"We are proud of these brave women who have served our country, and are pleased that Ohioans can now honor them by displaying the new special plate on their vehicle," BMV Registrar Don Petit said in a statement.

More than 67,000 female veterans live in Ohio. The new plate is one of 40 military-related specialty plates.

"Ohio's women veterans are groundbreakers," said Department of Veterans Services Director Chip Tansill, "They have served with distinction in every war and we thank them for their role in preserving and protecting our freedom."

Mental Health and Addiction Services: Director Tracy Plouck testified before a public hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Friday in Cleveland. The hearing was focused on the impact of the opioid epidemic in Ohio, and included Sens. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) and Sherrod Brown (D-Avon).

Director Plouck joined Attorney General Mike DeWine and others in testifying about the battle against opioid addiction.

Capitol Scene: Willoughby Moves To AMP; SEIU, Boich Promote

Charles Willoughby, who most recently worked as director of energy and environmental policy at the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, has been named director of government affairs for American Municipal Power, Inc.

In the new role, Mr. Willoughby will be the primary Statehouse contact for AMP and the Ohio Municipal Electric Association.

"Charles will work closely with AMP and the Ohio Municipal Electric Association (OMEA) on behalf of our member utilities," said Michael Beirne, vice president of external affairs. "The issues confronting Ohio's municipal electric systems are many and often complex. His background and knowledge will be a great asset to the organizations and our members."

Before joining the Chamber, he was a government affairs consultant to the Industrial Energy Users - Ohio and was policy and legislative liaison for Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine. He also held staff positions for Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) when he served in the Senate, and for former Rep. Courtney Combs.

Mr. Willoughby is a graduate of Miami University.

Service Employee Union: SEIU District 1199 announced that Anthony Caldwell has been named director for public affairs.

"We are pleased to announce Anthony Caldwell as our new Director of Public Affairs for SEIU District 1199 WV/KY/OH," president Becky Williams said. "Anthony has spent his career dedicated to improving the lives of working people and working to achieve greater social and economic justice. Caldwell's experience in communications and politics matched with his depth of knowledge of the legislature have prepared him to lead in this important role."

The group is the health care and social service union for West Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio, representing almost 29,000 workers.

Boich: The Boich Companies announced that Mathew T. Evans has been named the firm's president.

In the new position, Mr. Evans will take an increased leadership role as the company continues to diversify in energy markets.

"Obviously, the energy mix in this country has and will be seeing significant changes," Mr. Evans said. "I look forward to helping the company further evolve as we move into the future."

Before the promotion, Mr. Evans was president of external relations for Boich Companies. He joined the company in 2001, and leads the company's government affairs activities at state and federal levels.

Mr. Evans is a former Ohio Senate aide who also worked for former Gov. George V. Voinovich. He also spent five years working in legislative and regulatory affairs for Cinergy, now known as Duke Energy. He is a graduate of Ohio University.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, April 26

Racing Commission, 77 South High St., Room West B & C - 31st Floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Thursday, April 28

State Board of Education, Ohio Department of Education, 25 South Front Street, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Ethics Commission, 126 S. State St., Meeting Room A, Westerville, 12 p.m. (Advisory Committee)

EMIS Advisory Board, Statehouse Rm. 116, Columbus, 1 p.m.

Friday, April 29

Accountancy Board, Rm. West B&C, 31st Fl., 77 S. High St., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Thursday, May 5


Ethics Commission, 30 West Spring Street, Meeting Room 2, 2nd Fl., Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger
Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2016, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

House Activity for Monday, April 25, 2016

INTRODUCED

HB 529 ■ **FIREARMS (Retherford, W., Hagan, C.)** To provide for firearms training for tactical medical professionals; to permit such a professional who has received that training or comparable training and who is authorized to carry firearms by the law enforcement agency the professional is serving to carry firearms while on duty in the same manner, to the same extent, in the same areas, and subject to the same potential for civil and criminal liability as a law enforcement officer of the agency; and to grant such a professional, while on duty in that capacity, the same right to carry a concealed handgun in this state as a person who was issued a concealed handgun license. Am. 109.71, 109.73, 109.75, 109.79, 109.801, and 2923.126 and to enact sections 109.748 and 109.771

HB 530 ■ **CHILD CARE CENTERS (Retherford, W.)** To provide for the licensure of sick-child care centers. Am. 5104.01, 5104.015, and 5104.99 and to enact sections 5104.0113, 5104.15, 5104.16, and 5104.17

HB 531 ■ **MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENTS (Hill, B.)** To require townships to provide mileage reimbursement to a member of a board of township trustees and to a township fiscal officer for travel within the township that is necessary in the performance of the member's or fiscal officer's duties. Am. 505.242 and 507.091

HB 532 ■ **REAL ESTATE SALES (Smith, R.)** Relating to real estate brokers and salespersons. Am. 4735.01, 4735.06, 4735.07, 4735.09, 4735.10, 4735.141, 4735.18, 4735.24, 4735.51, and 4735.65 and to enact sections 1386, 4735.081, 4735.091, and 4735.23

HB 533 ■ **AWARENESS MONTH (Sprague, R.)** To designate the month of May as "Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month." Am. 5.259

HOUSE SPEAKER'S APPOINTMENTS

Commission on Minority Health: Rep. Sykes


Joint Education Oversight Committee of the House of Representatives and Senate: Rep. Patterson as ranking minority member

Medina County Transportation Improvement District Board of Trustees: Rep. Hambley

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger
Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2016, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Senate Activity for Monday, April 25, 2016

INTRODUCED

SB 318 ■ **DISCRIMINATION (Skindell, M., Tavares, C.)** To prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, to add mediation to the list of informal methods by which the Ohio Civil Rights Commission must attempt to induce compliance with Ohio's Civil Rights Law before instituting a formal hearing, and to eliminate certain religious exemptions from the Ohio Civil Rights Law. Am. 9.03, 124.93, 125.111, 153.59, 153.591, 340.12, 511.03, 717.01, 1501.012, 1751.18, 2927.03, 3113.36, 3301.53, 3304.15, 3304.50, 3314.06, 3332.09, 3721.13, 3905.55, 4111.17, 4112.01, 4112.02, 4112.021, 4112.04, 4112.05, 4112.08, 4117.19, 4735.16, 4735.55, 4757.07, 4758.16, 4765.18, 5104.09, 5107.26, 5123.351, 5126.07, 5165.08, 5515.08, and 5709.832

SB 319 ■ **DRUG REGULATIONS (Eklund, J.)** To revise certain laws regarding the regulation of drugs, the practice of pharmacy, and the provision of addiction services. Am. 2925.61, 2929.14, 2947.231, 3707.56, 3719.121, 3719.21, 4729.06, 4729.071, 4729.16, 4729.18, 4729.19, 4729.38, 4729.51, 4729.54, 4729.541, 4729.55, 4729.571, 4729.60, 4729.68, 4729.99, 4731.22, 4731.94, 4776.02, 4776.04, and 5119.391, to enact sections 3707.58, 3707.59, 4729.10, 4729.40, 4729.45, 4729.513, 4729.514, 4729.553, 4729.90, 4729.901, 4729.902, 4729.91, 4729.92, 4729.921, 4729.93, 4729.94, 4729.95, 4729.96, and 4731.943, and to repeal section 4729.42 of the Revised Code and to amend Sections 331.90 and 331.120 of Am. Sub. H.B. 64 of the 131st General Assembly

SB 320 ■ **RENEWABLE ENERGY (Seitz, B.)** To revise the requirements for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction, to permit property owners to petition municipal corporations and townships for the purpose of developing and implementing special energy improvement projects, to govern condominium association participation in special improvement districts, to require deployment and permit cost recovery of advanced energy analytics technology by electric distribution utilities, and to revise the law governing net metering service provided by electric utilities and electric services companies. Am. 710.01, 1710.02, 1710.06, 1710.13, 3706.25, 4582.06, 4582.31, 4928.01, 4928.02, 4928.55, 4928.64, 4928.66, 4928.662, 4928.6610, and 4928.67; to recodify section 4928.67 as sections 4928.6711, 4928.6713, 4928.6715, 4928.6717, 4928.6723, and 4928.6725; and to enact sections 1710.20, 1710.21, 1710.22, 1710.24, 1710.241, 1710.26, 1710.28, 3745.28, 4928.41, 4928.6620, 4928.6621, 4928.671, 4928.672, 4928.673, 4928.676, 4928.677, 4928.679, 4928.6719, and 4928.6721

Gongwer Coverage

SR 443 ■ **RAIL CREWS (Skindell, M.)** To support the Federal Railroad Administration's proposed rule requiring trains operated in the United States to have at least a two-person crew.

SCR 20 ■

AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY (Peterson, B.) To support the use of science-based data to assess the impacts and regulation of modern agricultural technologies, and to oppose federal, state, or local legislative or regulatory actions that are not based on sound science and that may result in unnecessary restrictions on the use of modern agricultural technologies.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENTS


Joint Legislative Task Force on Department of Transportation Issues: Appoint Sen. LaRose to replace Sen. Manning

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger
Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2016, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Daily Activity Planner for Tuesday, April 26

Legislative Committees

House Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. **McClain, J.**, 644-6265), Rm. 121, 9:30 a.m.

SB 172 **BULLION TAXES** (**Jordan, K.**) To exempt from sales and use taxes the sale or use of investment metal bullion and coins. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 473 **TAX POLICY** (**Amstutz, R.**) To require voter approval before a county may levy a new utilities services tax, to allow small businesses to count employees of related or affiliated entities towards satisfying the employment criteria of the business investment tax credit, to permit a bad debt refund for cigarette and tobacco product excise taxes paid when a purchaser fails to pay a dealer for the cigarettes or tobacco products and the unpaid amount is charged off as uncollectible by the dealer, and to allow vendors to receive a refund of sales taxes remitted for bad debts on private label credit cards when the debt is charged off as uncollectible by the credit card lender. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 297 **TAX CREDIT** (**Hill, B.**) To authorize a refundable income tax credit for current livestock owners who invest in a manure storage or treatment facility or acquire manure application equipment or manure handling and transportation equipment. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

House Education (Committee Record) (Chr. **Brenner, A.**, 466-6711), Rm. 017, overflow in 018, 9:30 a.m.

- Presentation from the Ohio Department of Education on value-added.

HB 524 **SCHOOL RATINGS** (**Cupp, R., Smith, R.**) To review the value-added progress dimension measure used for purposes of state report card ratings for school districts and schools. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 487 **BILITERACY** (**LaTourette, S., Roegner, K.**) To require the State Board of Education to establish the state Seal of Biliteracy to be attached or affixed to the high school transcripts of qualifying students. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 481 **STUDENT ENROLLMENT** (**Thompson, A., Koehler, K.**) To revise the requirements regarding student enrollment reporting for public schools, mandatory student withdrawal policies, and scholarship program eligibility relative to students who choose not to take state assessments during the 2015-2016 school year and to declare an emergency. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 137 **ORGAN DONATION** (**Grossman, C., Phillips, D.**) To require the health curriculum of each school district to include instruction on the positive effects of organ and tissue donation. (4th Hearing-Possible vote)

Senate State & Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Uecker, J., 466-8082), North Hearing Rm., 9:45 a.m.

SB 220 **DEFERRED COMPENSATION** (Hottinger, J.) To authorize the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Board and local governments to establish designated Roth account features and other tax-deferred or nontax-deferred features permitted for government deferred compensation plans. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

HB 359 **ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY** (Duffey, M., Gonzales, A.) To create an address confidentiality program for victims of domestic violence, menacing by stalking, human trafficking, trafficking in persons, rape, or sexual battery. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SCR 15 **FEDERALISM** (Obhof, L., Faber, K.) To reassert the principles of federalism found throughout the Constitution of the United States of America and embodied in the Tenth Amendment, to notify Congress to limit and end certain mandates, and to insist that federal legislation contravening the Tenth Amendment be prohibited or repealed. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 240 **CORONER LAW** (Huffman, S., Johnson, T.) To recognize that coroners include medical examiners; to change the qualifications for holding office as a coroner of a charter county; to require, under certain conditions, and to authorize, under other conditions, supplemental compensation for coroners who are forensic pathologists; to revise how the office of coroner is filled when a vacancy cannot be filled by election or appointment; to specify the disposition of a firearm when a person meets death under certain circumstances; to specify who pays for the autopsy of an inmate of a state correctional facility; and to make other changes to the coroners' law. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 305 **RETIREMENT SYSTEMS** (Schuring, K.) To include new nonteaching employees of The University of Akron as members in the Public Employees Retirement System and to make an appropriation for the University's School Employees Retirement System employer surcharge payments. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 10 a.m.

SB 310 **CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS** (Oelslager, S.) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects for the biennium ending June 30, 2018. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending referral)

HB 475 **FILM TAX CREDITS** (Schuring, K.) To authorize motion picture companies to transfer the authority to claim refundable motion picture tax credits to other persons, to adjust how the credit is calculated, to increase the total amount of credits that may be awarded per year, to remove the limit on the maximum credit amount that may be awarded to a motion picture, and to create a job training program for resident film crew members. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 500 **CASE MANAGEMENT** (Arndt, S.) To revise the Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program, to establish a case management pilot program, to transfer cash from the Economic Development Program Fund (Fund 5JC0) to the Case Management Pilot Program Fund (Fund 5SK0), and to make an appropriation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Insurance (Committee Record) (Chr. Hottinger, J., 466-5838), South Hearing Rm., 10:30 a.m.

HB 207 **WORKERS COMPENSATION** (Henne, M., McColley, R.) To allow a state fund employer to have a workers' compensation claim that is likely to be subrogated by a third party paid from the surplus fund account in the state insurance fund rather than charged to the employer's experience (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

SB 273

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (Bacon, K.) To enact the Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure Act. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

~~Canceled: House Session (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 11 a.m.~~

- If needed

~~Canceled: Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.~~

Senate Agriculture (Committee Record) (Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150), North Hearing Rm., 11 a.m.

HB 178 **WINE SALES (Manning, N.)** To establish the F-10 liquor permit to authorize certain A-2 permit holders to sell Ohio wines at farmers markets. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 342 **WINERY PERMITS (Young, R.)** To create the Ohio Farm Winery Permit. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 187 **ANIMAL TREATMENT (Ginter, T.)** To authorize specified emergency personnel to provide certain emergency medical services to an injured dog or cat. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

SB 151 **DOGS LAW (Beagle, B.)** To revise provisions of the Dogs Law governing nuisance, dangerous, and vicious dogs, to revise enforcement of that Law, and to establish a notification process regarding complaints of certain violations of that Law. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 60 **COMPANION ANIMAL ABUSE (Hall, D., Patmon, B.)** To revise provisions and penalties regarding treatment of companion animals, to revise the definition of "companion animal" in the Offenses Relating to Domestic Animals Law, and to provide a state collaborative effort to assist veterinarians in identifying clients who may use their animals to secure opioids for abuse. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Senate Financial Institutions (Committee Record) (Chr. Hughes, J., 466-5981), Finance Hearing Rm., 11:15 a.m.

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of John Brown, and Jordan Miller, Jr., Banking Commission and Fred DeBiasi, Jr., Savings and Loan Association and Savings Bank Board.

HB 317 **IDENTITY THEFT (Maag, R.)** To enable the parents or guardian of a protected consumer to freeze that consumer's credit to protect the consumer from identity theft. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 303 **DEED PROGRAM (Dever, J., McColley, R.)** To create the D.O.L.L.A.R. Deed Program. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)

House Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Amstutz, R., 466-1474), Rm. 119, 1 p.m.

HB 429 **AUTO TECHNICIANS (Antani, N., Reineke, B.)** Regarding employers of automotive technicians and motor vehicle technicians participating in the Incumbent Workforce Training Voucher Program. (1st Hearing-Possible amendments & vote)

~~Canceled: Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.~~

~~Canceled: Joint Legislative Task Force on Department of Transportation Issues, Joint Legislative Task Force on Department of Transportation Issues (Chr. Manning, G., 466-9690, Chr. Grossman, C., 466-9690), TBD, 2 p.m.~~

- Tentative meeting

House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development (Committee Record) (Chr. **Terhar, L.**, 466-8258), Rm. 113, 2:15 p.m.

HB 418 **SENIOR HOUSING** (**Barnes, J.**) To enact the "Senior Housing Relief Act" to prohibit the sale of delinquent property tax certificates for homesteads owned for at least 20 years by a person aged 65 or older. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)

HB 463 **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES** (**Dever, J.**) To establish expedited actions to foreclose mortgages on vacant and abandoned residential properties, to permit private selling officers to conduct judicial and execution sales of real property, to state the intent of the General Assembly regarding mortgage foreclosure actions, to revise the Commercial Paper Law relating to mortgages and lost instruments, and to make other changes relative to foreclosure actions. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

House Energy & Natural Resources (Committee Record) (Chr. **Landis, A.**, 466-8035), Rm. 017, 2:30 p.m.

HB 512 **WATER SYSTEMS** (**Ginter, T.**) To establish requirements governing lead and copper testing for community and nontransient noncommunity water systems, to revise the law governing lead contamination from plumbing fixtures, to make appropriations to the Facilities Construction Commission for purposes of providing grants for lead fixture replacement in eligible schools, and to revise the laws governing the Water Pollution Control Loan and Drinking Water Assistance Funds. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent-Pending referral)

House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. **Brown, T.**, 466-8104), Rm. 121, 2:30 p.m.

HJR 6 **TERRORIST NATIONS** (**Johnson, T.**) Proposing to enact Section 18 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit state agencies and the state's public retirement systems from contracting with and investing in companies with certain business operations in countries designated as state sponsors of terrorism and to require state agencies and public retirement systems to divest investments from such companies. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 213 **COSMETOLOGY LAW** (**Jordan, K., Tavares, C.**) To make changes to the Cosmetology Licensing Law. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 471 **COMMISSION ELIMINATION** (**Brown, T.**) To formally abolish certain boards and commissions that have completed their work and to abolish the Compact with Ohio Cities Task Force. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 476 **STATE CONTRACTING** (**Schuring, K.**) To prohibit a state agency from contracting with a company that is boycotting Israel or disinvesting from Israel. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 504 **PUBLIC RECORDS** (**Schuring, K.**) To generally protect a private, nonprofit institution of higher education from liability for a breach of confidentiality or other claim that arises from the institution's disclosure of public records. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Select Committee on Medical Marijuana (Chr. **Schuring, K.**, 752-2438), Rm. 313, 3 p.m.

HB 523 **MEDICAL MARIJUANA** (**Huffman, S.**) To authorize the use of marijuana for medical purposes and to establish the Medical Marijuana Control Program. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. **Oelslager, S.**, 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 3 p.m.

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of Susan Block, Ohio Arts Council; Phil Collins, University of Cincinnati Board of Trustees; Michael Flowers, Minority Development Financing Advisory Board; Will Lucas, University of Toledo Board of Trustees; John Martin, Ohio Higher Educational Facility Commission and William Scala and Joseph Gingo, University of Akron Board of Trustees

HB 50 **ADOPTION ASSISTANCE (Pelanda, D., Grossman, C.)** To extend the age for which a person is eligible for federal foster care and adoption assistance payments under Title IV-E to age twenty-one, to provide a ward's bill of rights, to require that a guardian receive the Ohio Guardianship Guide, and to make an appropriation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 267 **VEHICLE FUELS (Seitz, B., Peterson, B.)** To create the Gaseous Fuel Vehicle Conversion Program, to allow a credit against the income or commercial activity tax for the purchase or conversion of an alternative fuel vehicle, to apply the motor fuel tax to the distribution or sale of compressed natural gas, to authorize a temporary, partial motor fuel tax exemption for sales of liquid and compressed natural gas used as motor fuel, and to make an appropriation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 274 **FINANCIAL LITERACY (Seitz, B.)** To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create the SmartOhio Financial Literacy Pilot Program at the University of Cincinnati to operate for the 2016-2017 school year and to make an appropriation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 298 **COMMUNITY SCHOOL CONTRACTS (Schiavoni, J.)** Regarding community school operator contracts and the operation of Internet- and computer-based community schools. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Judiciary (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 116, 3:30 p.m.

HB 268 **HUMAN TRAFFICKING (Hall, D., Dever, J.)** To expand the list of human trafficking-related convictions and delinquency adjudications that may be expunged, to increase the penalties for compelling prostitution and promoting prostitution, and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 353 **SEX OFFENDERS (Ruhl, M.)** To require a sheriff to mail a notice to every adult member of a household where a person who is required to register as a sex offender resides informing those household members that the person has committed a sexually oriented offense or a child-victim oriented offense. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 439 **VOYEURISM (Anielski, M.)** To include an impaired person as a victim of voyeurism and to include conduct involving an impaired person within the offenses of pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor, and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 446 **OVI OFFENSES (Manning, N.)** To specify that the prison term that may be imposed for a third degree felony operating a vehicle while intoxicated ("OVI") offense is a definite period of twelve, eighteen, twenty-four, thirty, thirty-six, forty-two, forty-eight, fifty-four, or sixty months, to add "harmful intoxicant" to the definition of "drug of abuse" for the purposes of commercial driver's licensing law, to allow a person to assert the existing affirmative defense of driving in an emergency with regard to a prosecution for driving under a suspended driver's license under specified laws, and to specify that certain enhanced penalties for speeding violations apply regardless of whether the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to speeding. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 488 **CIVIL LIABILITY (Sprague, R.)** To modify the qualified immunity from civil liability for volunteer health care services provided to indigent and uninsured persons and to permit health care

professionals to earn continuing education credit by providing volunteer health care services to indigent and uninsured persons. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sunset Review Committee (Committee Record) (Chr. **Brown, T.**, 466-8104), South Hearing Rm., 3:30 p.m.

- The panel will hear testimony from the Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program Council, Utility Radiological Safety Board, Backflow Advisory Board, Electrical Safety Inspector Advisory Committee, State Fire Council, Citizen's Advisory Council and Student Tuition Recovery Authority.

House Community & Family Advancement (Committee Record) (Chr. **Derickson, T.**, 644-5094), Rm. 114, 4 p.m.

HB 493 **CHILD ABUSE REPORTING** (**Sears, B., Ryan, S.**) To make changes in the child abuse and neglect reporting law. (2nd Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)

HB 63 **CHILD ABUSE REPORTING** (**Pelanda, D., Grossman, C.**) To require mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect to notify the county public children services agency when an attorney in fact under a document that purports to grant parental rights requests services from them, to require the agency to investigate the child's placement with the attorney in fact, and to require the agency to file a dependency complaint if it determines that the placement is unsafe for the child. (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. **LaRose, F.**, 466-4823), North Hearing Rm., 4 p.m.

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointment of Scott Williams, State Fire Commission

SB 315 **TRANSPORTATION FUNDING** (**Manning, G.**) To make supplemental appropriations related to transportation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to declare an emergency. (1st Hearing-All testimony)

Senate Education (Committee Record) (Chr. **Lehner, P.**, 466-4538), Finance Hearing Rm., 4 p.m.

- The panel will hear a presentation from the Department of Education on the Value Added progress measure and consider the governor's appointment of Robert McDonald Jr. to the State Board of Education

HB 113 **CPR TRAINING** (**Grossman, C., Manning, N.**) To require instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator as a requirement for high school graduation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 425 **RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION** (**Hayes, B.**) Regarding student religious expression. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 297 **STUDENT EXPULSIONS** (**Hughes, J.**) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Agency Calendar

Board of Building Appeals, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 9 a.m.

Health Services Price Disclosure Study Committee, Lazarus Building, 5th Floor, 141 S. High St., Columbus, 9 a.m.

Minority Development Financing Advisory Board, Rm. East B., 31st Fl., 77 S. High St., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Racing Commission, 77 South High St., Room West B & C - 31st Floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Event Planner

League of Women Voters of Ohio's annual Statehouse Day

CFAES Research and Extension Legislative Luncheon (Ohio State University), Statehouse Atrium, Columbus, 11 a.m.

Ohio House Democratic Caucus fundraiser, Rambling House, 310 E. Hudson St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$2,500, \$1,000, \$500, \$250 to House Democratic Caucus Fund and/or Committee to Elect Fred Strahorn)

Rep. Barbara Sears (R-Monclova Township) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus - Tally Ho Room, 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Sponsor: \$500; Individual: \$350 to Citizens for Sears)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger
Jon Reed, Staff Writers

© 2016, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.

Alexander, Steven

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 11:20 AM
To: House All
Subject: ALERT- HAPPENING NOW: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Come on up to the 31st Floor!

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2018 9:34 AM
To: Thomas, AJ <AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: RE: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Make sure to respond by **this Friday 5/18** for a free lunch! See below:

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 11:50 AM
To: Thomas, AJ <AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Hello! Had enough of bureaucracy? Tired of all the red tape? Concerned about rogue agencies seemingly operating impervious to oversight? I am, too!

A wise man once said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch," but he was wrong!

On Wednesday May 23rd there will be a panel discussion of HB580 featuring the American Principles Project's Erin Tuttle, Greg Lawson of The Buckeye Institute, and Micah Derry of Americans for Prosperity. It will be moderated by Representative Andy Thompson. There will also be a free lunch provided by the parties in question.

House Bill 580, adds oversight and transparency to Ohio executive agencies' applications for federal grants, in an effort to control the rise of the administrative state. The discussion will include how the bureaucracy of our federal and state governments has grown over time, and how this administrative growth has specifically hurt the State of Ohio through federal grants and mandates. We will discuss how HB580 will help address the problem we have with a rising administrative state, and institute oversight via the executive branch.

WHERE: 31st FL. North Room

WHEN: Wednesday May 23rd from 11:00-12:15

WHO: All Members and Staff are invited

Please RSVP to AJ Thomas (AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov) by Friday May 18th so we may have a count for lunch.

We hope to see you there!

Andrew M. Thompson

Andy Thompson
State Representative
House District 95



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



AMERICANS FOR
PROSPERITY

Alexander, Steven

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 12:32 PM
To: Thomas, AJ
Subject: FW: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Final chance! Don't miss out on lunch and a great opportunity to see what we are doing to control the rise of the administrative state. Thanks!

AJ THOMAS

Legislative Aide
State Representative Andy Thompson | Ohio's 95th House District
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Office number: (614) 644-8728
AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2018 9:34 AM
To: Thomas, AJ <AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: RE: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Make sure to respond by **this Friday 5/18** for a free lunch! See below:

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 11:50 AM
To: Thomas, AJ <AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Hello! Had enough of bureaucracy? Tired of all the red tape? Concerned about rogue agencies seemingly operating impervious to oversight? I am, too!

A wise man once said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch," but he was wrong!

On Wednesday May 23rd there will be a panel discussion of HB580 featuring the American Principles Project's Erin Tuttle, Greg Lawson of The Buckeye Institute, and Micah Derry of Americans for Prosperity. It will be moderated by Representative Andy Thompson. There will also be a free lunch provided by the parties in question.

House Bill 580, adds oversight and transparency to Ohio executive agencies' applications for federal grants, in an effort to control the rise of the administrative state. The discussion will include how the bureaucracy of our federal and state governments has grown over time, and how this administrative growth has specifically hurt the State of Ohio through federal grants and mandates. We will discuss how HB580 will help address the problem we have with a rising administrative state, and institute oversight via the executive branch.

WHERE: 31st Fl. North Room

WHEN: Wednesday May 23rd from 11:00-12:15

WHO: All Members and Staff are invited

Please RSVP to AJ Thomas (AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov) by Friday May 18th so we may have a count for lunch.

We hope to see you there!

Andrew M. Thompson

Andy Thompson

State Representative

House District 95



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



Alexander, Steven

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2018 9:34 AM
To: Thomas, AJ
Subject: RE: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Make sure to respond by **this Friday 5/18** for a free lunch! See below:

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 11:50 AM
To: Thomas, AJ <AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Hello! Had enough of bureaucracy? Tired of all the red tape? Concerned about rogue agencies seemingly operating impervious to oversight? I am, too!

A wise man once said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch," but he was wrong!

On Wednesday May 23rd there will be a panel discussion of HB580 featuring the American Principles Project's Erin Tuttle, Greg Lawson of The Buckeye Institute, and Micah Derry of Americans for Prosperity. It will be moderated by Representative Andy Thompson. There will also be a free lunch provided by the parties in question.

House Bill 580, adds oversight and transparency to Ohio executive agencies' applications for federal grants, in an effort to control the rise of the administrative state. The discussion will include how the bureaucracy of our federal and state governments has grown over time, and how this administrative growth has specifically hurt the State of Ohio through federal grants and mandates. We will discuss how HB580 will help address the problem we have with a rising administrative state, and institute oversight via the executive branch.

WHERE: 31st Fl. North Room

WHEN: Wednesday May 23rd from 11:00-12:15

WHO: All Members and Staff are invited

Please RSVP to AJ Thomas (AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov) by Friday May 18th so we may have a count for lunch.

We hope to see you there!

Andrew M. Thompson

Andy Thompson
State Representative
House District 95



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



AMERICANS FOR
PROSPERITY

Alexander, Steven

From: Thomas, AJ
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 11:51 AM
To: Thomas, AJ
Subject: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon
Attachments: Deconstructing Admin State Lunch Invite.pdf

Hello! Had enough of bureaucracy? Tired of all the red tape? Concerned about rogue agencies seemingly operating impervious to oversight? I am, too!

A wise man once said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch," but he was wrong!

On Wednesday May 23rd there will be a panel discussion of HB580 featuring the American Principles Project's Erin Tuttle, Greg Lawson of The Buckeye Institute, and Micah Derry of Americans for Prosperity. It will be moderated by Representative Andy Thompson. There will also be a free lunch provided by the parties in question.

House Bill 580, adds oversight and transparency to Ohio executive agencies' applications for federal grants, in an effort to control the rise of the administrative state. The discussion will include how the bureaucracy of our federal and state governments has grown over time, and how this administrative growth has specifically hurt the State of Ohio through federal grants and mandates. We will discuss how HB580 will help address the problem we have with a rising administrative state, and institute oversight via the executive branch.

WHERE: 31st Fl. North Room

WHEN: Wednesday May 23rd from 11:00-12:15

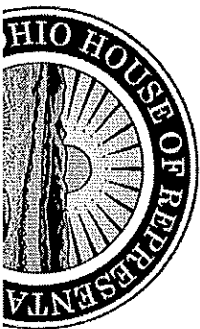
WHO: All Members and Staff are invited

Please RSVP to AJ Thomas (AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov) by Friday May 18th so we may have a count for lunch.

We hope to see you there!

Andrew M. Thompson

Andy Thompson
State Representative
House District 95



Subj: Deconstructing the Administrative State Panel Discussion and Luncheon

Hello! Had enough of bureaucracy? Tired of all the red tape? Concerned about rogue agencies seemingly operating impervious to oversight? I am, too!

A wise man once said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch," but he was wrong!

On Wednesday May 23rd there will be a panel discussion of HB580 featuring the American Principles Project's Erin Tuttle, Greg Lawson of The Buckeye Institute, and Micah Derry of Americans for Prosperity. It will be moderated by Representative Andy Thompson. There will also be a free lunch provided by the parties in question.

House Bill 580, adds oversight and transparency to Ohio executive agencies' applications for federal grants, in an effort to control the rise of the administrative state. The discussion will include how the bureaucracy of our federal and state governments has grown over time, and how this administrative growth has specifically hurt the State of Ohio through federal grants and mandates. We will discuss how HB580 will help address the problem we have with a rising administrative state, and institute oversight via the executive branch.

WHERE: 31st Fl. North Room

WHEN: Wednesday May 23rd from 11:00-12:15

WHO: All Members and Staff are invited

Please RSVP to AJ Thomas (AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov) by Friday May 18th so we may have a count for lunch.

We hope to see you there!

Andrew M. Thompson

Andy Thompson
State Representative
House District 95



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY

Alexander, Steven

From: Westlake, Libby
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 8:54 AM
To: Westlake, Libby
Subject: E-Clips for 5/2/2018

HOUSE E-CLIPS 5/2/2018

AP Associated Press

OHIO'S TOP COURT TO HEAR ARGUMENTS ON PROMOTIONS TAX DISPUTE

The Ohio Supreme Court has set a date for arguments in a dispute over promotions offered by the Cincinnati Reds to ticket buyers including bobbleheads and other items.

OHIO GOVERNOR TO ANNOUNCE CHRONIC PAIN PRESCRIBER STANDARDS

Ohio Gov. John Kasich is preparing to announce new standards to help people suffering from chronic pain get proper treatment from prescribers to avoid addiction.

The Columbus Dispatch
Ohio's Greatest Online Newspaper

KUCINICH SAYS HE GOT \$120K AS CONSULTANT FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD GROUP

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dennis Kucinich received \$122,000 in consulting fees in 2016 from a group that works for food sustainability and safety, his campaign said Tuesday.

TRUMP ACCUSER GETTING DONATIONS FROM ACROSS US FOR OHIO RACE

The national exposure that has come with her accusations of sexual harassment against President Donald Trump has translated into an unprecedented number of individual campaign contributors for Rachel Crooks' Ohio House campaign.

MIKE DEWINE STRESSES CONSERVATIVE CREDENTIALS IN NEW TV AD

With a week until Election Day, the Republican gubernatorial campaign of Mike DeWine is airing a new TV commercial that it hopes underlines his conservative credentials — and support of President Donald Trump.

SPENDING FOR TV ADS COULD BE TROUBLE FOR ECOT IN UPCOMING AUDIT

The first report regarding ECOT's operations following allegations from an insider that the school used new tracking software to manipulate attendance data will come from the state auditor.

Dayton Daily News

www.daytondailynews.com

REPORT: BAIL REFORMS COULD SAVE OHIO TAXPAYERS \$67 MILLION A YEAR

A new report from the Buckeye Institute says Ohio could save \$67 million a year in jail costs by changing the bail system used by courts.

OHIO MAY BAN FREE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR LAWMAKERS

In the wake of Republican Cliff Rosenberger's abrupt resignation as Ohio House speaker, state Rep. Niraj Antani is proposing reforms to state ethics laws when it comes to gifts, meals and travel for legislators.

MAY ELECTION: BIG MONEY SPENT IN MIAMI/DARKE COUNTY STATE HOUSE RACE

Nearly a quarter of a million dollars has been spent on the Republican primary in Ohio's 80th state House district making it one of the most expensive statehouse primary in the region.

THE PLAIN DEALER

AS RICHARD CORDRAY CAMPAIGNS FOR OHIO GOVERNOR, THE FEDERAL AGENCY HE HEADED IS IN TRIAL IN CLEVELAND

A trial that began in U.S. District Court in Cleveland on Tuesday pits the federal agency Ohio Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray once led against a law firm the agency accuses of conducting deceptive debt collection practices.

DENNIS KUCINICH SAYS THE BULK OF HIS CONSULTING FEES CAME FROM ANTI-G.M.O. GROUP

Former U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich's gubernatorial campaign released more details Tuesday about the roughly \$120,000 he received from consulting.

RICK RALEY IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY FOR OHIO HOUSE 14: ENDORSEMENT EDITORIAL

State Rep. Martin J. Sweeney is moving on from his 14th Ohio House District to run for the Ohio Senate, leaving the House seat wide open for four Democrats eager to succeed him -- including his 25-year-old daughter, Bride Rose Sweeney.

DIMITRI MCDANIEL IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY FOR OHIO HOUSE 12: ENDORSEMENT EDITORIAL

Several strong Democratic primary candidates are seeking to replace term-limited state Rep. John Barnes Jr. in the 12th Ohio House District, which reaches from a slice of southeast Cleveland to Bedford, Bedford Heights, Highland Hills, Maple Heights, Mayfield Heights, North Randall, Orange, Pepper Pike and Warrensville Heights.

THE BLADE

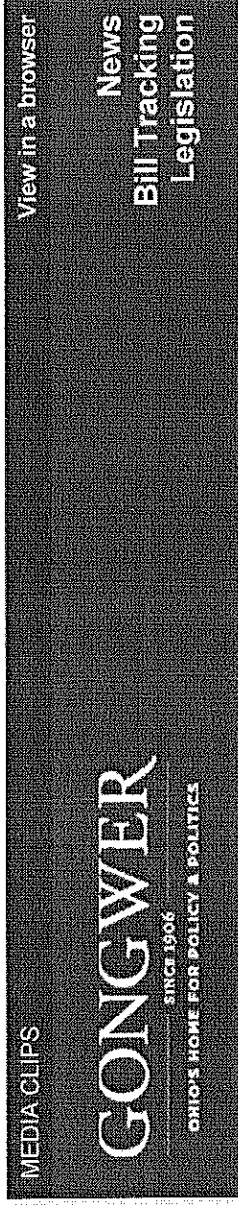
One of America's Great Newspapers

ASHFORD, FEDOR SQUARE OFF IN PRIMARY FOR OHIO SENATE SEAT

Imagine that: A hotly contested race without mudslinging.

Alexander, Steven

From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 8:31 AM
To: Alexander, Steven
Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Wednesday, May 2



NEWS

Officials find flaw with medical marijuana grower scoring (Associated Press, 5/2/2018)

Ohio governor to announce chronic pain prescriber standards (Associated Press, 5/2/2018)

Ohio's top court to hear arguments on promotions tax dispute (Associated Press, 5/2/2018)

Here are all 403 personalized license plates Ohio rejected in the past year (Cincinnati Enquirer, 5/2/2018)

Who's who in the 'toss-up' race for Congress (Cincinnati Enquirer, 5/2/2018)

As Richard Cordray campaigns for Ohio governor, the federal agency he headed is in trial in Cleveland (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/2/2018)

Conservative Buckeye Institute says bail reform in Ohio would save money (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/2/2018)

Dennis Kucinich says the bulk of his consulting fees came from anti-G.M.O. group (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/2/2018)

Kane launches second ad of GOP primary for Tiberi's old seat (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Kucinich: I got \$122,000 as consultant for sustainable food group (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Mike DeWine stresses conservative credentials in new TV ad (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Ohio asks feds for OK to impose Medicaid work requirements (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Trump accuser getting donations from across US for Ohio race (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Trump accuser getting donations from across US for Ohio race (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Ohio may ban free international travel for lawmakers (Dayton Daily News, 5/2/2018)

Report: Bail reforms could save Ohio taxpayers \$67 million a year (Dayton Daily News, 5/2/2018)

Sexual assault legal loophole prevents victim military transfers, lawmaker says (Dayton Daily News, 5/2/2018)

Algal blooms harder to control because of climate change, other factors, data shows (Toledo Blade, 5/2/2018)

Commissioners, state representative advocate for regulation of payday loans (Toledo Blade, 5/2/2018)

Groups explore extent of ECOT 'hush money' (Toledo Blade, 5/2/2018)

EDITORIALS

Beacon Journal/Ohio.com editorial board: Being mean to the poor in public housing (Akron Beacon Journal, 5/2/2018)

Dimitri McDaniel in the Democratic primary for Ohio House 12: endorsement editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/2/2018)

Rick Raley in the Democratic primary for Ohio House 14: endorsement editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/2/2018)

Editorial: Clarify regulations to finally banish ECOT demons (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

This message is provided to you as part of your subscription to Gongwer News Service.

Please send all correspondence to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com. This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)

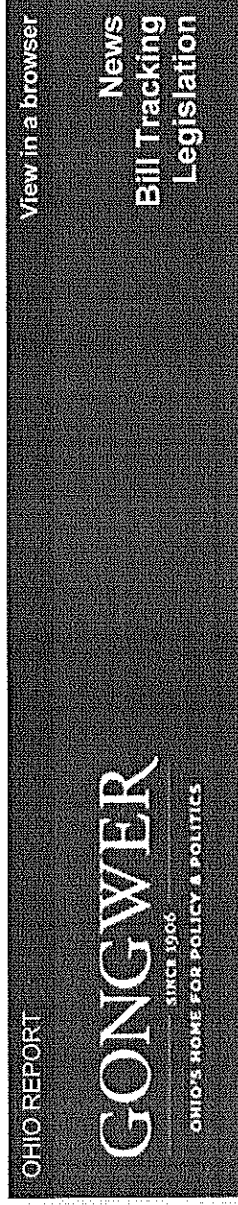
Copyright 2018, Gongwer News Service/Chic
17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without
express permission from Gongwer News Service.

[unsubscribe](#)

Alexander, Steven

From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 6:19 PM
To: Alexander, Steven
Subject: Ohio Report, Friday, April 20, 2018
Attachments: 180420dayplan.htm; Apr20.htm; 180420plan.htm



OHIO REPORT FRIDAY, APRIL 20

- Energy Standards Bill Timeline Unclear As Another Wind Setback Proposal Is Introduced
- State Unemployment Drops To Lowest Level In More Than 16 Years
- Senator Backing Medical Marijuana Audit Bill Supports Review By Commerce Department
- High Court To Hear Traffic Camera Case
- Candidates Stress Experience In House District 26 Primary
- OPA: Pharmacists Can Serve As Educators In Opioid Struggle

Medical Pot Program Halt Rejected; Complaint Against DeWine Dismissed; No New Trial For Beck; Buckeye Institute Weighs In On Case...

Issue 1 Backers Tout Endorsements; Cordray Takes Credit For Wells Fargo Fine; Yuko Calls For Action On Guns...

Sheehy Calls For Further Action On Ag Runoff; OEC Proposes Toxic Chemical Protections

Ohio Lands \$26 Million In Federal Opioid Funding; Senators Applaud Disaster Request Approval...

Chamber Of Commerce Endorses Issue 1; P&G, Key, More Report Financial Results; Toledo Businesswoman Added To SBAC

Governor's Appointments

Supplemental Agency Calendar

CALENDARS

Day Planner

Event Planner

Please send all correspondence to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com. This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)

Copyright 2018, Gongwer News Service/Ohio
17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without
express permission from Gongwer News Service.

[unsubscribe](#)



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, April 21-Monday, April 23

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Monday, April 23

Controlling Board, North Hearing Rm., Senate Bldg., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Human Trafficking Commission, 18th Fl., 150 E. Gay St., Columbus, 2 p.m.

Event Planner

Saturday, April 21

YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly 2, Statehouse, Columbus

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Tom Gallick, Staff Writers

© 2018, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Volume #87, Report #77 -- Friday, April 20, 2018

Energy Standards Bill Timeline Unclear As Another Wind Setback Proposal Is Introduced

Senate President Larry Obhof this week referred to ongoing talks over the state's energy standards and wind turbine setback revisions as "a long-term project."

The remark lends further uncertainty to the timeline in which Senate Republicans hope to roll out a substitute bill on a measure (HB 114) that in its current form waters down the state's renewable and energy efficiency benchmarks.

Earlier this month, Sen. Obhof had predicted a sub bill could be ready "in the next few weeks." (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 6, 2018)

But asked this week about the Senate's priorities in the coming weeks, Sen. Obhof (R-Medina) said: "We've talked a number of times about energy, and particularly 114 probably now is a long-term project."

Sen. Obhof had previously labeled the measure a priority for the first part of the year but the timeline has been pushed back at every juncture as lawmakers grappled with a congressional redistricting ballot issue (SJR 5), the capital budget (HB 529) and other pressing proposals.

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) and Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) are spearheading talks on that sub bill but have said the timeline and the extent of the changes to the legislation remain unclear. The caucus has yet to reach a consensus on the plan the senators presented behind closed doors last month. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 23, 2018)

Changes to loosen the state's setbacks for wind turbines are expected to be a component of the sub bill and advocates have continued pressing lawmakers in recent weeks to walk back restrictions put in place in a 2014. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 12, 2018)

Rep. Fred Strahorn (D-Dayton) on Tuesday introduced his own standalone measure to reduce setbacks (HB 604). His plan joins several other legislative efforts to accomplish that feat, including proposals from Sen. Matt Dolan (SB 238) and Sen. Michael Skindell (SB 184).

The minority leader's proposal would require turbines to be no closer than 1,125 feet from the tip of a turbine to the exterior of the nearest habitable residential structure. Current law, in contrast, measures the distance from the structure's property line.

The measure would also make permanent tax exemptions for tangible personal property of a qualified energy project using renewable energy resources under certain conditions.

Trish Demeter, the Ohio Environmental Council's vice president of energy policy, welcomed the latest attempt.

"I applaud Leader Fred Strahorn for proposing HB604 - a bill which if passed, would pave the way for full scale wind development in Ohio," Ms. Demeter said.

"For too long, Ohioans have missed out on trends towards wind energy due to unnecessarily large setbacks from property lines. Fixing the wind setback issue is critical for further development of wind energy across the state, and bringing Ohio up to speed in the growing clean energy economy."

State Unemployment Drops To Lowest Level In More Than 16 Years

Ohio's unemployment rate dropped a notch to 4.4% in March, maintaining a positive trend of recent months and reflecting the best report since August 2001, according to the Department of Job and Family Services.

The March rate was a drop from 4.5% in February 2018, the agency reported. Total employment increased 10,800 over the month to 5,579,200, and the number of unemployed was down 9,000 to 253,000.

The unemployment total has dropped by 40,000 since March 2017, when the rate was 5.1%, and the state has seen an increased of 54,400 jobs during that period, according to state data compiled in conjunction with the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"Another strong jobs report out today," Gov. John Kasich stated on his Twitter account. His statement was accompanied by a GIF of actor Chuck Norris giving a thumbs-up.

"Since 2011, Ohioans have created 501,000 new private sector jobs, and unemployment is the best it's been since 2001," Mr. Kasich said. "We've come a long way since 2010. Let's keep it going, Ohio!"

Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) said the number of new private jobs reflected an important milestone for the state. The positive news shows the GOP-run legislature's policies are working, he said.

"We work diligently to not only create an environment of possibilities for Ohio's job creators but also to ensure Ohioans from all backgrounds are prepared to take advantage of those opportunities," Sen. Obhof said in a release.

"We've done this through creating a jobs-friendly business environment, developing a jobs-ready workforce and empowering Ohio's small businesses, the backbone of our economy. While this is an important milestone that shows Ohio's policies are working, we have much more to do, and we will continue to build on this progress."

Despite the recent gains, Ohio still lags the nation, as the U.S. unemployment rate for March was 4.1%. That figure was unchanged from February and down from 4.5% in March 2017.

During a month when most sectors saw job gains, the best performers were the private service-providing sector, which added 5,700 positions, as well as trade, transportation, and utilities (+3,400). ODJFS noted the most significant losses in information (-700) and other services (-500).

Agency spokesman Bret Crow said eight industries or sub-sectors experienced record-high employment levels. They are: transportation, warehousing and utilities; finance and insurance; educational and health services; educational services; health care and social assistance; leisure and hospitality; accommodation and food services; and state government.

The March gains in the construction industry, which was up 1,200 jobs, represented the third consecutive month of steady job growth in the sector, which has gained 5,700 jobs over the last year, Mr. Crow said.

In addition, the state versus federal comparison on job growth favored Ohio, as the state added jobs at a rate that was more than double the national rate, or 0.19% versus 0.07%, he said. And the average weekly earnings for Ohioans is up \$3.14 compared to last month and \$28.45 compared to last year, both outperforming the national rate.

"It's an across-the-board positive report with lower unemployment and new job growth that doubled the nation's," Mr. Crow said.

Andrew J. Kidd, senior economist with the Economic Research Center at The Buckeye Institute, said the latest jobs report shows "Ohio's job market is allowing individuals who desire jobs to get jobs."

"However, Ohio has yet to reach the national unemployment rate of 4.1%, he added. "This, as well as a labor force participation rate lower than the national average, shows that Ohio still has work to do. The right reforms, such as closing tax loopholes and removing unnecessary barriers to employment through occupational licensing, would create opportunities for sustained job growth."

"Ohio in 2018 has experienced positive job growth. Yet, another month of an unchanged labor force participation rate once again implies that some individuals are still not searching for jobs," Mr. Kidd added.

Hannah Halbert, researcher with Policy Matters Ohio, said the state has gained more jobs in the first three months of 2018 than in all of 2017.

"While labor force participation suggests there is still room for improvement, Ohio's labor market is finally tightening," she said. "Even so, many jobs pay too little and offer too-few hours, making it nearly impossible to afford basics like food and health care without public support. Raising the minimum wage, restoring the 40-hour work week, and supporting paid leave would make the most of this tighter labor market and help rebuild a path to the middle class."

Ms. Halbert said Ohio continues to underperform the nation's 12-month rate for job growth and has "vastly underperformed" the rest of the U.S. since the 2005 tax overhaul was enacted.

"Ohio is not out of the woods. A bad month or two could erase this streak and more months of solid growth are needed to take up the remaining slack in our labor market," she said.

Senator Backing Medical Marijuana Audit Bill Supports Review By Commerce Department

A senator who sponsored legislation to require an audit of the medical marijuana licensing process said he's supportive of efforts by the Department of Commerce to perform its own review.

Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.) introduced a proposal (SB 264) in February to require a state auditor investigation of DOC's awarding of provisional licenses for medical marijuana growers, including a set timeframe for the review and the awarding of certificates of operation.

It was intended to remove any clouds of suspicion or impropriety from the licensing process, the sponsor said. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 22, 2018)

That measure had its first hearing this week in the Senate Health, Human Services & Medicaid Committee. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 17, 2018)

Since February, DOC and other agencies involved in the medical marijuana program have worked to tamp down expectations for the initiative's Sept. 8 go-live date, saying it's unlikely all license recipients will be operational by then. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 5, 2018)

The agency worked with an attorney general-appointed special counsel to hire a third-party auditor to review the scoring and find possible improvements. The department reported Friday that Ernst & Young was retained for the work, which does not have a set deadline for completion but is expected to take "a matter of weeks" to finish.

Sen. Coley complimented the department on that effort and said the goal of his legislation is simply to ensure the state has a fair process.

"You could easily argue that they're already doing those things," he said in an interview. "I want to make sure it gets done and it gets followed through."

He encouraged the department to work with the auditor's office to ensure the process is thoroughly reviewed.

"I support Commerce going through and looking at the whole thing, re-scoring if necessary and awarding additional licenses if warranted," he said. "I think that's all a good thing and it would be for the benefit of all patients and the state of Ohio."

Sen. Coley said he's confident the department will correct any issues.

"I think they realize that some mistakes were made and they want to correct them," he said.

DOC will go before the Controlling Board Monday to request more than \$5 million for staffing, legal costs and other expenses for the medical marijuana program. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 16, 2018)

High Court To Hear Traffic Camera Case

The battle over automated traffic cameras will continue next week with the latest front being the Ohio Supreme Court.

The city of Toledo and the state are at odds over a previous budget (HB64, 131st General Assembly) provision that allows the state to reduce Local Government Fund distributions for non-compliance with traffic camera restrictions (SB342, 130th General Assembly), some of which were struck down by the high court. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 26, 2017)

Ten days prior to the traffic camera restrictions becoming law, the city asked for and received an injunction from the Lucas County Common Pleas Court, the high court reported.

Lawmakers then passed the biennial budget containing the LGF reduction provisions. The city again asked for and received an injunction from the trial court, which found the state would be in contempt if it withheld funding from cities based on non-compliance with a law found to be unconstitutional.

The Sixth District Court of Appeals upheld the ruling, leading to the state appeal to the high court, where it argues the budget provision is a reporting requirement and a formula for discretionary spending. (Docket)

"Toledo has no 'home rule' right to receive money from the General Assembly," the state writes in a brief. "It is not 'losing' money that it has, but rather choosing to give up money in order to run its traffic-camera program as it sees fit."

The state also contends that the city should have been required to file a separate lawsuit in the matter and that the injunction is a violation of separation of powers.

"The Sixth District's holding invades the legislative power and exceeds the judicial power because courts do not have roving license to enjoin legislation," the state argues. "Courts must instead draw the power to block legislation from specific constitutional prohibitions."

The city, however, claims that lawmakers are seeking to coerce compliance with unconstitutional laws.

It also argues that the state is the guilty party when it comes to the violation of separation of powers.

"If the General Assembly could simply ignore the judicial branch any time legislation is struck by withholding funds to those entities that do not comply with the unconstitutional legislative acts, then there is no separation of powers because the legislature would reign supreme," the city writes in its brief.

"This type of legislation is not a 'new' law that merits a separate lawsuit and separate constitutional analysis, but moreover an affront to the authority of the judiciary. The Penalty Provisions try to avoid judicial control by reenacting unconstitutional laws."

The case is slated for oral arguments as another measure (HB 410) authored by the primary sponsor of the 2014 law works its way through the General Assembly.

Rep. Bill Seitz's (R-Cincinnati) legislation would eliminate the use of administrative hearings when a civil citation is issued for a traffic violation recorded by a photo-monitoring device and require local governments that use traffic-monitoring devices to annually file a report with the tax commissioner detailing how much revenue is generated from their use which will then be subtracted from the LGF distribution.

The court will hear three other cases next week:

- In *State v. Dunson*, a Montgomery County man convicted of murder and aggravated robbery will ask the justices to set aside \$6,199 in court costs.
- The court in *East Manufacturing v. Testa* will determine if a Portage County company is eligible for a use tax exemption for the purchase of natural gas it uses to heat six buildings where aluminum truck trailers are constructed.
- A bank will argue that despite federal rules requiring a face-to-face meeting with a borrower after three missed mortgage payments prior to proceeding with a foreclosure it should be allowed to move forward because the meeting occurred during court-ordered mediation after the second attempt to foreclose in the case of *Wells Fargo Bank v. Burd*.

Candidates Stress Experience In House District 26 Primary

A Columbus City School Board member and a law clerk with a background in youth advocacy each say their breadth of experience make them the ideal candidates for the 26th House District.

The Democrat-leaning district is currently represented by Rep. Hearcel Craig (D-Columbus), whose bid for the Senate is opening the path for a new face. Michael Cole, 45, and Erica Crawley, 37, are both working to secure the Democratic nomination, after which the victor will likely face Republican Shareeque Sadiq in November.

Mr. Cole said he has a track record of "having gotten things done in the most tough circumstances" thanks to his two terms on the school board.

"It's one thing when the whole deck's lined up for you and you're accomplishing some things of the work and will of people," he said. "It's another to have every kind of almost insurmountable obstacle against you whether it's state, federal, local discontent for something and still move the needle of achievement."

Ms. Crawley, while touting her own experience, credits her desire to enter public office to her great aunt who in 2007, shortly before her death, asked her during a conversation on political leaders, "Why not you?"

"She was never elected, never interested in politics per se, but she gave her time," Ms. Crawley said. "She spent a lot of time with the church, with homeless families. She never met an enemy. People loved my aunt and she loved people. I would hope she would be proud of me if I could be half the woman she was and make the impact she made."

Mr. Cole is originally from Cleveland but first came to Columbus as a student at Ohio State University. "This city kind of had me at hello," he said.

He picked up a master's degree in communication at Seton Hall University and then chose to return to Columbus where he sought out service opportunities including a five-year stint as area commissioner in Westgate.

"The opportunity and potential that this city offers I think is tremendous," Mr. Cole said. "I think it was almost a spiritual calling to end up in this city."

He said he worked on neighborhood safety and beautification issues, before segueing into politics and hosting a public affairs radio show. He was first elected to the school board in 2013 and reelected last year. He's currently vice president of the board, which is dominated by Democrats.

"I came with the mindset of working to ensure and strengthen accountability, curriculum, transparency and safety in the district," Mr. Cole said. "I'm committed to bringing that same mindset to the Statehouse."

Even though it contains solely Democrats, he said, the school board has taught him valuable lessons.

"Even if everyone's on the same page from the politics standpoint everyone brings different points of view, skills, knowledge and attitude," Mr. Cole said. "Working among a body politic making decisions and brokering decisions...on matters that effect people is something I've tremendously learned from this experience."

Ms. Crawley is also a transplant, hailing originally from Youngstown. She spent 2000-2003 serving in the United States Navy in Virginia. After giving birth to twin girls - Hope and Faith, who are now 13 - she moved to Cleveland where she finished her college degree in criminology with a focus on juvenile delinquency.

Next was a stint in Atlanta where she received her masters and had an array of jobs centered on supporting youth including work for the Black Child Development Institute and the Court Appointed Special Advocate program.

She returned to Columbus where she attended Capital University Law School, graduating in 2017 with a concentration in civil litigation. Following that, she clerked for Honda North America and since 2016 has clerked for Eastman and Smith's Columbus office.

Both candidates list education as a central plank of their platforms. For Ms. Crawley that means ensuring equal access to quality education.

"I am an advocate for universal Pre-K," she said. "But also making sure all of our children have the same opportunities. Addressing school funding and school resources definitely plays a part."

She said she also wants to expand trade school options for young students and to focus on economic development.

"Especially in the 26th District there is disinvestment and underinvestment in that community," she said. "I would love to focus on micro-business and small businesses and making sure my neighbors have access to those resources."

She added she'd press for equal access in other areas, such as healthcare, including addiction and mental health support services.

"With that, making sure our aging population has the services they need," Ms. Crawley added. "There are a lot of grandparents taking care of their grandchildren and they don't have the resources necessary to do that effectively."

On the education front, Mr. Cole said he wants to restore consistency, including possibly by requiring five-year curriculum plans. He likened his experience on the board to being Harry Houdini locked in a box with the key inside as he's thrown over Niagara Falls.

"I find out a lot of what confines public schools period...is they are all boxed in by state laws that don't take consideration to how certain things affect us," he said. "From funding to property taxes to education and curriculum and how important it is to make sure it's steady, consistent."

In other areas, Mr. Cole said he wants to alleviate property tax burdens and create more opportunities for mixed income housing.

"I think there are any number of ways we can look at funding public education that doesn't solely fall on the backs of property owners, particularly in poor communities," he said. "I think we can do some income tax sharing. ... I think there are some win-wins. We just have to turn over some stones."

Ms. Crawley said she's the candidate voters should turn to if they seek experience thanks to a career and life experience span the spectrum from nonprofit to for-profit, military and civilian.

"I've had a commitment to being of service to others," she said. "If you look at my career either professionally or in volunteerism...I have always had a commitment to making a difference in the communities in which I lived and making a difference especially for individuals who come from poverty or low-income families."

Mr. Cole and his wife Lee have three children, ages 21, 15 and 14. He is a substitute social studies teacher who enjoys motorcycles and muscle cars.

In addition to spending time with her daughters, Ms. Crawley said she collects books, particularly of the professional development variety or autobiographies.

Subscribers Note: This story is part of a series focusing on key primary races for Ohio legislative seats. See Gongwer's Election Page for more information on 2018 contests, including our Key Races.

OPA: Pharmacists Can Serve As Educators In Opioid Struggle

From asking customers to question potentially counterfeit pills to teaching them how to dissolve old medication in cat litter or coffee grounds, Ohio's pharmacists have a key role in fighting the state's opioid epidemic.

That was the message from officials with the Ohio Pharmacists Association to the nearly 1,000 pharmacists and students who attended the group's 140th annual conference and trade show Friday at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

Ernie Boyd, executive director of the OPA, said pharmacists and the public need to "keep the pressure on" to get patients to request other medications and medical professionals to write fewer prescriptions for opioids.

Mr. Boyd said over-the-counter drugs can be a fine alternative to prescription opiates. He said he thinks it was a "major mistake" to allow ibuprofen and other anti-inflammatory or pain-relief medication to be sold without a prescription.

"In the public's mind, (ibuprofen) is as innocuous as cheese or rutabaga because it's sold next to those products," he said. "I think that's insane. These are very potent drugs."

The public tends to believe prescription drugs inherently are more effective and over-the-counter drugs safer, Mr. Boyd said, adding that's not always the case.

The convention included a demonstration of multiple ways people can dispose of old or unneeded medication, from using specialty kits to mixing it with water and coffee grounds or cat litter to make it unpalatable to animals and children. Mr. Boyd said pharmacists can explain the importance and methods of disposal and serve on local drug task forces to assist in the opiate fight.

The group also advised pharmacists to explain the importance of avoiding medication from potentially dubious sources, whether it be an acquaintance or an online retailer.

"The large majority of internet sites are (fraudulent)," Mr. Boyd said. "Ninety-eight percent of the online pharmacies are not pharmacies at all. They're fake."

He said counterfeit pills may look virtually indistinguishable from pills produced by the actual manufacturer and could include powerful opioids such as fentanyl and carfentanil. The consequences of consuming the bootleg drugs range from addiction to death.

Dr. Michael Ybarra, deputy vice president of advocacy and strategic alliances at PhRMA, said the public needs to get medicine from a trustworthy source. He said buying from "rogue online pharmacies" can be a dangerous move.

"The safest thing to do is to buy at a pharmacy," he said. "The U.S. distribution system is totally closed (with) FDA inspected facilities."

Mr. Boyd said there are some legitimate online pharmacy sites, which typically feature the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy's Verified Internet Pharmacy Practice Sites logo and have a pharmacy domain names.

The most important advice for members of the public, Mr. Boyd said, might simply be to stop using medication that was not prescribed to them.

"You just don't share any of the stuff, period," he said."

Medical Pot Program Halt Rejected; Complaint Against DeWine Dismissed; No New Trial For Beck; Buckeye Institute Weighs In On Case...

A Franklin County judge on Friday declined to put the state's medical marijuana program on hold.

Instead, Franklin County Common Pleas Court Judge Richard Frye will consider the matter again at a May 11 hearing.

"We're pleased that there's been a decision not to pause the program," said Thomas Rosenberger, a spokesman for the National Cannabis Industry Association of Ohio.

The Friday hearing was a result of a lawsuit filed by Ohio Releaf LLC, which was denied a cultivator's license and subsequently sued the Department of Commerce for what it alleges is a failure to comply with public record laws and to hold a timely administrative appeal hearing.

DOC has hired an independent auditor to review its processes. (*See separate story*)

Dismissed Complaint: A three-judge panel has dismissed one of four counts of allegedly violating canons of the Ohio Judicial Code of Conduct filed against Ohio Supreme Court Justice Patrick DeWine.

The count alleges that Justice DeWine asked Hamilton County Prosecutor Joe Deters, who had 48 cases pending before the court at the time the complaint was filed, to hire his son for an internship.

The remaining allegations involve Justice DeWine's father, Attorney General Mike DeWine. The complaint alleges Justice DeWine improperly failed to recuse himself from cases in which AG DeWine is named as a party and that he appears on his father's gubernatorial campaign web site.

Justice DeWine has denied all of the alleged charges.

New Trial: The nation's highest court has declined to order a new trial for a former state lawmaker.

The U.S. Supreme Court declined to grant the request of former Rep. Peter Beck for a new trial. The decision was issued without comment.

Mr. Beck in 2015 was found guilty of 13 charges and sentenced to serve four years in prison. However, a state appellate court in 2016 overturned 10 charges and Mr. Beck served just 16 months in prison.

Amicus Brief: The Buckeye Institute has filed an amicus brief with the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals asking it to strike down a Tennessee law it says discriminates against outdoor advertisements and signs with ideological messages.

The group said the law, which is designed to be in compliance with the Highway Beautification Act of 1965, is a violation of the First Amendment.

"While we all enjoy a scenic drive and beautiful roadways, the First Amendment is even more precious to Americans and its protections must not be violated in the name of highway beautification," President and CEO Robert Alt said in a statement. "Restricting the placement of outdoor advertisements solely based on the sign's message is a clear infringement of free speech and must be overturned."

Crew Dispute: Major League Soccer and the Precourt Sport Ventures, owner of the Columbus Crew, have asked the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas to dismiss a lawsuit designed to prevent the team from moving to Texas.

In a motion to dismiss, the groups call the Art Modell law "blatantly unconstitutional."

"The statute violates the dormant Commerce Clause of the United States Constitution because it both discriminates against out-of-state residents and impermissibly interferes with the defendants' abilities to conduct their business in interstate commerce," the filing reads.

The law requires the owner of an Ohio professional sports team that plans to cease playing most of its home games in the state to provide six months' notice in order to give others an opportunity to purchase the franchise

Disciplinary Cases: The Board of Professional Conduct on Friday announced that it has filed 10 disciplinary case reports with the high court.

Issue 1 Backers Tout Endorsements; Cordray Takes Credit For Wells Fargo Fine; Yuko Calls For Action On Guns...

The bipartisan Coalition for Redistricting Reform, the group backing Issue 1, on Friday announced a slew of endorsements for the ballot measure.

The endorsements include the Ohio AFL-CIO, the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Council of Churches, the Ohio Education Association, the Ohio Environmental Council, the Ohio Farm Bureau and the NAACP Ohio Chapter.

Campaign advisor Keary McCarthy in a statement said the endorsements "truly signal the bipartisan nature of fixing the way we draw our congressional districts in Ohio."

"Our state lawmakers stepped up to make this bipartisan fix to a very partisan problem a reality, and I'm thrilled to see these powerful groups across Ohio come aboard," he added.

Wells Fargo: Richard Cordray on Friday weighed in on the news that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau fined Wells Fargo \$1 billion.

The bureau's former director in a statement sought to downplay the role that acting Director Mick Mulvaney played in issuing the fine.

"Mulvaney has brought no new enforcement actions since he has been at the CFPB," he said. "Investigations that take many months or even years, and that are just now being finalized, are due to the aggressive work my team did to bring predatory behavior to light. To suggest this is the work of Mulvaney, who has done nothing but throw sticks in the spokes of a talented, hard-working CFPB team of devoted public servants is preposterous."

Gun Legislation: Senate Minority Leader Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Hts.) used the anniversary of the Columbine school shooting to call for legislation to reduce gun violence.

Sen. Yuko in a statement commended students who on Friday walked out of school to mark the 19th anniversary of the school shooting.

"Our young people have sent us a clear message: we need to act now to protect them. The Senate Democratic Caucus has introduced numerous common-sense proposals to address gun violence and help keep our kids safe. Many of these bills have yet to receive a hearing," he said.

"As a leader in the Ohio Senate, I know we have to do more to stop violence in our schools. Schools should be places where children worry about upcoming math tests, and not about active shooters."

Gun Rally: Three gun rights groups on Saturday will hold a "Patriot Day Rally" at the Statehouse.

The 11 a.m. event hosted by Ohioans for Concealed Carry, Ohio Carry and the Buckeye Firearms Association will feature historical information on the role of private gun ownership in the country's founding and immigrants who will talk about their experiences before and after coming to America, according to a release.

NFIB Endorsement: Rep. Larry Householder (R-Glenford), a speaker hopeful, has the backing of National Federation of Independent Business/Ohio in his reelection bid, the group announced Friday.

Roger Geiger in a statement said Rep. Householder "understands the issues important to Ohio entrepreneurs as demonstrated by his strong voting record with NFIB."

Sheehy Calls For Further Action On Ag Runoff; OEC Proposes Toxic Chemical Protections

Rep. Michael Sheehy (D-Oregon) criticized state leaders this week after a recent report showed more work is needed to curb the runoff of phosphorus and other nutrients into Ohio's waterways.

His remarks were centered on the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Nutrient Mass Balance Study. The report found "no clear decrease" in nutrient loading, especially from nonpoint sources like agricultural runoff. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 17, 2018)

Rep. Sheehy in a statement singled out farmers for their role in contributing to runoff that can fuel harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie.

"This new report shows that despite years of deceptive talking points from powerful industry representatives in Columbus, we know where all this excess phosphorus pollution has been coming from," Rep. Sheehy said.

"It's not complicated: if you are causing nearly 90% of a problem, you should participate in searching for a solution," he continued. "Instead, their lobbyists have prioritized fighting against policy solutions and even shifting the blame to urban centers that suffer the worst of these consequences."

The Ohio Farm Bureau previously said the report shows that agriculture must play a role in improving water quality. But a spokesman said new regulations aren't needed in the group's view.

Chemicals: The Ohio Environmental Council is requesting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency crack down on toxic chemicals.

The request comes in the form of a petition for rulemaking filed by the council seeking new protections against carcinogen perfluorooctanoic acid and other substances that can be pumped into water and air by manufactures.

"These companies need to stop emitting these chemicals before extensively studying them, and our proposed rules would stop this dangerous practice," said Chris Tavenor, an OEC law fellow.

Copies of the request were also submitted to President Donald Trump, Gov. John Kasich, Ohio EPA Director Craig Butler, Attorney General Mike DeWine and members of Ohio's congressional delegation.

Ohio Lands \$26 Million In Federal Opioid Funding; Senators Applaud Disaster Request Approval...

For the second consecutive year, Ohio is poised to receive a \$26 million funding infusion to buoy efforts to combat the opioid epidemic.

The funding announced this week comes from the 21st Century CURES Act passed in 2016. It's part of \$485 million in grants to be divvied up among states this year. Ohio received a similar amount of dollars under the program last year during the first round of funding. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 20, 2017)

"This is good news for Ohio, and these new funds will help our efforts to combat the heroin and prescription drug epidemic gripping our state," U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) said in a statement. "This is another positive step forward, but we must do more, and that's why I continue to push for common-sense solutions like the STOP Act and CARA 2.0 that will help us turn the tide of addiction in Ohio and around the country."

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Cleveland) likewise applauded word of the additional funding.

"For too long, Ohio communities have been desperate for the federal government to step up and provide the necessary resources to effectively combat the opioid epidemic," Sen. Brown said. "While we know there is more work to be done, this funding is a meaningful step forward for Ohio. It's important that the state work to get this funding out to local communities quickly as they continue to battle this epidemic."

The dollars are aimed at boosting evidence-based programs and are overseen by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Emergency: Sens. Brown and Portman also welcomed President Donald Trump's approval of Gov. John Kasich's request for disaster assistance following largescale flooding in February. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 17, 2018)

Sen. Brown said the declaration "will go a long way in helping reassure Ohio communities impacted by last month's devastating floods that they are not alone."

Sen. Portman said, "It will allow our affected communities to get much-needed federal assistance following this winter's terrible storms."

Wright-Patterson: Ohio delegates urged the Pentagon to pick the Dayton-area Air Force base to house the F-35 Hybrid Product Support Integrator Organization.

Wright-Patterson is "uniquely qualified" to handle that role, which could mean an additional 400 jobs, all of Ohio's senators and representatives wrote to Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson.

"Based on the criteria used during the strategic basing process, we believe WPAFB's workforce makes the base the logical location for HPSI," the lawmakers wrote. "The basing process specifically requires acquisition professionals who are Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act certified with tactical

fighter support experience, and WPAFB's workforce of engineers, programs managers, logistics managers, and contracting personnel would provide HPSI with an exceptional staff."

Chamber Of Commerce Endorses Issue 1; P&G, Key, More Report Financial Results; Toledo Businesswoman Added To SBAC

The Ohio Chamber of Commerce has thrown its support behind a ballot issue aimed at reforming the state's redistricting guidelines.

The group's board of directors earlier this week voted to support Issue 1.

"The Ohio Chamber has long recognized the need for sensible changes to the redistricting process and we are pleased to join the bipartisan coalition supporting State Issue 1," President & CEO Andrew E. Doehrel said in a statement. "Job creators know the value of a fair and competitive playing field in the marketplace, and State Issue 1 will bring this element of necessary, healthy competition to congressional campaigns, as well."

Mr. Doehrel said the group twice in the past 15 years opposed redistricting efforts that "did not represent a consensus approach."

Procter & Gamble: The Cincinnati-based company saw net sales of \$16.3 billion in the third quarter, up by 4% from the previous year.

Organic sales increased 1% for the quarter ended March 31, P&G reported. Diluted net earnings per share were \$0.95, an increase of 2%.

Operating cash flow was \$3.4 billion for the quarter, while adjusted free cash flow productivity was 95%, according to the company.

P&G returned \$3.2 billion to shareholders via \$1.8 billion of dividend payments and \$1.4 billion of common stock repurchase.

"We delivered modest top- and bottom-line growth in a challenging macro environment in the third quarter," Chairman, President and CEO David Taylor said in a statement. "We have large businesses in several difficult markets. The ecosystems in which we operate around the world are being disrupted and transformed. We will change at an even faster rate -- winning through superiority, cost and cash productivity and a strengthened organization and culture."

KeyCorp: The Cleveland-based company reported. \$402 million in net income, or \$0.38 per common share, in the first quarter.

The financial services company reported net income of \$296 million over the same period in the previous year.

"First quarter was a good start to the year, with continuing momentum in our core businesses, as we grew and expanded relationships with our targeted clients," Chairman and CEO Beth Mooney said in a statement. "Revenue increased over 3% from the same period last year, driven by a higher net interest income, solid loan growth and stronger fee income."

First Financial: The Cincinnati-based bank reported net income of \$30.5 million, or \$0.49 per diluted common share, in the first quarter.

First financial reported net income of \$24.8 million, or \$0.40 per diluted common share, in the previous quarter.

"We are extremely pleased with our strong first quarter performance, representing our 110th consecutive quarter of profitability and top-quartile level returns," Executive Chairman Claude Davis said in a statement. "We are also excited about our recent merger with MainSource which closed on

April 1st. We welcome our new colleagues from MainSource and together look forward to building an even stronger company going forward."

SBAC: Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor has appointed Jennifer Zalecki to the Small Business Advisory Council.

Ms. Zalecki serves as president and CEO of Toledo-based Battery Wholesale. The company, which Ms. Zalecki's father founded in 1983, operates seven retail stores in the greater Toledo area.

"Jennifer has been an effective small business advocate through her service to the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce and has demonstrated her high business acumen through the success of her own company," Lt. Gov. Taylor said.

Governor's Appointments

Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund Advisory Council: Kimpton E. Williams of Waynesville for a term beginning April 20, 2018, and ending January 31, 2021.

State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services: Capt. Kevin T. Uhl of Sycamore Township for a term beginning April 20, 2018, and ending November 12, 2019.

Public Benefits Advisory Board: Dasmine Wright of Columbus for a term beginning April 20, 2018, and ending June 30, 2018.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Monday, April 23


Human Trafficking Commission, 18th Fl., 150 E. Gay St., Columbus, 2 p.m.

Friday, April 27

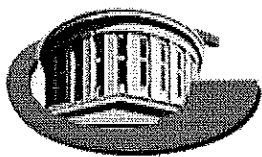
Accountancy Board, 77 S. High St., Conference Room West B & C, 31st Floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Tom Gallick, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2018, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Event Planner

Saturday, April 21

YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly 2, Statehouse, Columbus

Tuesday, April 24

OAHU Annual Day at the Statehouse, Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square, 75 East State Street, Columbus

Rep. Andy Brenner (R-Powell) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus - Parlor A/B, 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Brenner for Ohio)

Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) & Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) fundraiser, Pins, 141 N. 4th Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Matt Huffman for Ohio and/or Friends of John Eklund)

House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) fundraiser, Club 185, 185 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$3,700; Sponsor: \$1,370 to Committee to Elect Cliff Rosenberger)

Ohio Chemistry Technology Council's 30th Annual Legislative Reception, Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel, 50 North Third Street, Columbus, 5:30 p.m.

Ohio Aggregates and Industrial Minerals Association 20th Annual Legislative Reception, Statehouse Atrium, Columbus, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 25

American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Advocacy Day, Riffe Center, 77 S. High St., Davidson Theatre, Columbus

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) and Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) fundraiser, Pins, 141 N. 4th Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Citizens for Bill Beagle and/or Citizens for Lehner)

Sen. Scott Oelslager (R-N. Canton) & Sen. Frank Hoagland (R-Adena) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus - 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Checks to Oelslager for Ohio Committee and/or Hoagland for Ohio)

Rep. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) fundraiser, Valters at the Mannerchor, 976 S. High St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Host: \$1,000, Sponsor: \$500; Patron: \$250, Individual: \$75 to Committee for Jim Hughes)

Thursday, April 26

Deadline to file pre-primary campaign finance reports

Rep. Glenn Holmes (D-McDonald) fundraiser, Vernon's Italian Ristorante, 720 Youngstown-Warren Road, Niles, 5 p.m., (Event Sponsor \$1500, Supporter \$1000, Friend \$500, Table Sponsor \$300, Individual \$60 to Committee to Elect Glenn Holmes)

Rep. Nathan Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) fundraiser, Berry's Restaurant, 15 W. Main Street, Norwalk, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$250 to Nathan Manning for Ohio)

Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville) fundraiser, Aloft Columbus Westerville, 32 Heatherdown Drive, Westerville, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$250 to Citizens for Anne Gonzales)

Rep. Hearcel Craig (D-Columbus) fundraiser, The Lincoln Caf , 740 E. Long St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (\$250, \$100, \$50, \$25 to Friends of Hearcel F. Craig)

Tuesday, May 1

Lobbyists/Employers can begin filing January-April 2018 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Wednesday, May 2

Pro-life Legislative Day

Thursday, May 3

Rep. Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson) fundraiser, Portage Country Club, 240 N. Portage Path, Akron, 5:30 p.m., (Chair: \$5,000 | Sponsor: \$2,500 | Host: \$1,000 | Guest: \$250 to Kristina Daley Roegner for Ohio)

Tuesday, May 8

Primary election day

Thursday, May 10

YMCA Youth & Government Model United Nations, Statehouse, Columbus

Friday, May 11

YMCA Youth & Government Model United Nations, Statehouse, Columbus

Saturday, May 12

YMCA Youth & Government Model United Nations, Statehouse, Columbus

Tuesday, May 15

Deadline for most public officials and employees to file personal financial disclosure statements.

Ohio Association of Health Plans Annual Legislative Reception, Statehouse Rotunda, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Please RSVP to Stacy Bewley at sbewley@oahp.org or for any questions call (614) 228-4662.)

Rep. John Rogers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake) & Rep. John Patterson (D-Jefferson) fundraiser, Club 185, 185 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor Levels: Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Friends of Rogers and Committee to Elect John Patterson. RSVP with Jenna Gravalis at 551-429-9895 or jgravalis@ohiodems.org)

Wednesday, May 16

Ohio Auctioneers Association legislative day

Rep. Michele Lepore-Hagan (D-Youngstown) fundraiser, Einstein Bros. Bagels, 41 S. High Street, Columbus, 8 a.m., (Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Michele Lepore-Hagan for State Representative)

2018 Arts Day & Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio Luncheon, The Columbus Athenaeum, 32 North Fourth Street, Columbus, 12 p.m.

Tuesday, May 22

Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association Legislative Reception & Technology Demo, 77 S. High St., Capitol Theater Lobby, Columbus, 5 p.m.

Rep. David Leland (D-Columbus) fundraiser, Market 65, 65 East State Street, Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Guest - \$250; Host - \$500; Sponsor - \$1,000; Gold Sponsor- \$2,500 to Friends of David Leland)

Wednesday, May 23

Rep. Kent Smith (D-Euclid) fundraiser, Einstein Bros. Bagels, 41 S. High Street, Columbus, 8 a.m., (Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Kent Smith Committee)

Rep. John Becker (R-Union Township) fundraiser, Ringside, 19 N. Pearl St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Host: \$1000; Sponsor:\$500; Host:\$350 to Friends of Becker)

Rep. Doug Green (R-Mt. Orab) fundraiser, OHROC , 21 W Broad St. 7th Floor, Columbus, 4:30 p.m., (Host: \$1000; Sponsor: \$500; Host: \$350 to Committee to Elect Doug Green)

Thursday, May 24

Rep. Rick Perales (R-Beavercreek) golf outing fundraiser

Thursday, May 31

JLEC Deadline for filing January-April 2018 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Friday, June 1

Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) & Rep. Nathan Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) golf outing fundraiser, Bob-O-Link Golf Course, 4141 Center Road (Rt. 83), Avon, 9:30 a.m., (9:30am Registration | 10:30am Shotgun Start | 3:30pm Appetizers and Awards; , Avon, Ohio 44011 Eagle Sponsor: \$1,500 | Birdie Sponsor: \$750 | Foursome: \$400 | Hole Sponsor: \$200 | Individual Golfer: \$125 to Committee to Elect Gayle Manning and/or Nathan Manning for Ohio)

Monday, June 4

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) golf outing fundraiser, Crown Hill Golf Club, 9500 U.S. 22, Williamsport, 12 p.m., (12:00pm Lunch | 12:30pm Shotgun Start | 5:00pm Dinner. Tournament Sponsor \$2,000 | Eagle Sponsor: \$1,000 | Birdie Sponsor: \$500 | Hole Sponsor: \$200 | Individual Golfer: \$100 | Dinner Only: \$50 to Peterson for Good Government)

Friday, June 8

House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) golf outing fundraiser

Monday, June 11

Rep. Scott Ryan (R-Newark) golf outing fundraiser

Ohio's 2018 Opiate Conference: Strengthening Ohio's Communities, Hyatt Regency, 350 N. High St., Columbus

Tuesday, June 12

Ohio's 2018 Opiate Conference: Strengthening Ohio's Communities, Hyatt Regency, 350 N. High St., Columbus

Friday, June 15

Deadline to file post-primary campaign finance reports

Monday, June 18

Sen. President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) golf outing fundraiser

Monday, June 25

Rep. Brian Hill (R-Zanesville) golf outing fundraiser

Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association Golf Outing, The Lakes, 6740 Worthington Rd., Westerville

Monday, July 16

Rep. Bill Reineke (R-Tiffin) golf outing fundraiser

Thursday, July 19

Sen. Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls) Batter Up fundraiser

Friday, July 20

Rep. Tom Patton (R-Strongsville) golf outing fundraiser

Sunday, July 22

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Monday, July 23

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Tuesday, July 24

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Wednesday, July 25

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Sen. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) golf outing fundraiser

Thursday, July 26

Rep. Craig Riedel (R-Defiance) golf outing fundraiser

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Friday, July 27

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Tuesday, July 31

Deadline to file semi-annual campaign finance reports

Friday, August 3

Deadline for statewide candidates to file July campaign finance reports

Tuesday, August 7

Special election for 12th Congressional District seat

Thursday, August 16

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) golf outing fundraiser

Monday, August 20

Rep. Laura Lanese (R-Grove City) golf outing fundraiser

Thursday, August 23

Hamilton County GOP State Legislative golf outing fundraiser

Saturday, September 1

Lobbyists/Employers can begin filing May-August 2018 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Thursday, September 6

Deadline for statewide candidates to file August campaign finance reports

Monday, October 1

JLEC Deadline for filing May-August 2018 Activity & Expenditure Report

Wednesday, October 3

Deadline for statewide candidates to file September campaign finance reports

Thursday, October 25

Deadline to file pre-general campaign finance reports

Tuesday, November 6

General election day

Saturday, December 1

Lobbyists can begin renewing Legislative, Executive and Retirement System registrations for 2019

Friday, December 14

Deadline to file post-general campaign finance reports

Monday, December 31

All 2018 Legislative, Executive and Retirement System lobbying registrations expire in OLAC

Thursday, January 31

Deadline to 2018 annual campaign finance reports

Deadline to 2018 annual campaign finance reports

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Tom Gallick, Staff Writers

© 2018, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.

Alexander, Steven

From: report@hannah.com
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 6:23 PM
To: DL_Hannah
Subject: Hannah News Stories for Monday, March 19, 2018



Volume #85, Report #136 -- Friday, July 15, 2016

Timeline For Energy Freeze Action Unclear, Says Senate No. 2

A Senate leader said lawmakers may not act on the soon-to-end freeze on renewable energy and energy efficiency standards until sometime next year.

Sen. Larry Obhof (R-Medina), the Senate's president pro tem and likely next chamber leader, said in an interview this week he advocates for an "all the above approach" to rethinking the mandates that were frozen in 2014 and are set to kick back in at the end of this year without legislative action.

But such an undertaking might not be easier considering the limited number of session days scheduled this fall, he said. The Senate is scheduled to return in late September with at most 21 days set for work in committees, and much fewer days anticipated for full sessions. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 1, 2016) The House, meanwhile, is set to reconvene after the November election with at most eight full session days.

"I think that's a pretty big issue and if there's not that many session days it remains to be seen whether that'll be tackled in that amount of time," Sen. Obhof said. "I definitely think moving forward whether it's at the end of this year or at the beginning of the next General Assembly we need to come up with a comprehensive and consistent policy on energy."

By not acting by Dec. 31, the freeze would thaw, allowing the standards to kick back into effect, which Republicans argue could harm Ohio considering lingering uncertainty over the federal Clean Power Plan and other unknowns. Proponents of the standards say any effort to extend the freeze or lower the standards would take the state backward.

There are currently three bills pending in either chamber with different approaches. A bill from Sen. Bill Seitz (SB 320) would extend the freeze until 2019, while a bill from Rep. Ron Amstutz (HB 554) would extend the freeze indefinitely. A third bill (SB 325), from Sen. Kris Jordan, would abolish the mandates completely. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 11, 2016)

If none of those bills pass by the end of the 131st General Assembly, the legislative slate will be wiped clean and a new bill would need to be authored to tackle the issue next year.

Sen. Obhof said that even if lawmakers act on the freeze, he believes more comprehensive action would be needed in the next General Assembly.

"I think there will be some kind of action in the next 12 to 18 months regardless of whether the freeze is extended or not," Sen. Obhof said. "I don't know if there is any

science supporting the current numbers and mandates in law. I think we need to have a fact-based approach, one that has room for all the natural resources available."

The pending end of the freeze is one of the reasons cited by Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) as a reason for more Republican scrutiny of Gov. John Kasich's recent appointee to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

Democratic attorney Howard Petricoff on Tuesday faced his first hearing before the Sen. Seitz's Senate Public Utilities Committee. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 12, 2016)

"I believe we're at a unique crossroads caused by a fairly simultaneous convergence of numerous complex issues," Sen. Seitz said. "I think we all need to make an effort to understand each other on these issues and of course no one is more central to that vortex than the five members of the PUCO."

Other uncertainties he cited include ongoing rehearings of proposed Power Purchase Agreements from AEP and FirstEnergy, the departure of former PUCO Chairman Andre Porter, and the ongoing federal court case over the legality of the Clean Power Plan.

ECOT Debate Becomes Campaign Fodder In State Senate Race

In one of the first significant rhetorical volleys in this legislative campaign cycle, the rising controversy over funding and student attendance at the state's largest online charter school is a point of contention in the race for the open 16th Senate District.

Democrat Cathy Johnson, a teacher looking to upset favored Rep. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) in the right-leaning western Franklin County seat, fired the initial salvo this week in criticizing the Republican over issues related to the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow.

Her criticisms were dismissed by Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville), chairman of the Republican Senate Campaign Committee, who described the Democrat's statements as "misguided to say the least" and defended the Republican's positions on and support for education.

The race for the seat being vacated by Sen. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) is one of only a handful in the Senate this year that's expected to be even marginally competitive thanks to the GOP-led reapportionment process. It has trended Republican for several years, but Democrats are hoping that with a polarizing candidate atop the GOP ticket they can make hay in legislative races this fall.

ECOT is currently locked in a legal battle with the Ohio Department of Education over attendance records, with a looming audit having the potential to strip millions of funding from the online charter founded by Bill Lager. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 11, 2016)

Ms. Johnson in a campaign release "announced her support" for ODE's attempts to examine ECOT's records and said Rep. Kunze voted "against measures to hold e-

schools accountable in 2015" and "has accepted \$33,000 from ECOT's founder, Bill Lager, over the past four years."

"As a mother, teacher and taxpayer, I am astonished by the deceptive tactics of this taxpayer-funded e-school," Ms. Johnson said. "It's disappointing that Representative Kunze refused to stand up for Ohio's students and taxpayers by holding ECOT accountable when she had the chance."

The Democrat said Ms. Kunze "voted with Republicans to block amendments that would have required annual audits for charter school operators, clarified that records of all charter school operators are public records and given the public more access to information on charter school board members and meeting times."

"It's disappointing that Representative Kunze refused to stand up for Ohio's students and taxpayers by holding ECOT accountable when she had the chance," Ms. Johnson added. "Instead, she chose to accept donations from ECOT's founder. We need a State Senator who is dedicated to fighting for students and families. Anyone can say yes to special interests with deep pockets."

Sen. Burke questioned the focus of Ms. Johnson's assertions, saying Rep. Kunze has a record that belies such criticisms.

"Stephanie Kunze has a record of supporting both public education and parent choice," he said. "I would also say that both traditional public education and charter schools and ECOT schools, etc. are all in need of improvement beyond a shadow of a doubt and that is what we're working on."

To that end, Sen. Burke said, Ms. Kunze was a cosponsor of HB 2, which he described as "the largest reform bill dealing with non-traditional public schools." As the legislature continues to look for improvements to all kinds of public schools, he added, "she is obviously supportive of that."

"I would say, unlike Ms. Johnson's statement, that rather than have a singular source of education, that Stephanie believes parents should have a choice. The competition within that market drives improvement, so in order for public schools to get better, parents should have a choice."

The Republican said some of the tabled budget amendments the Democrat is apparently referring to "would have basically eliminated parent choice."

Sen. Burke also pushed back on the suggestion of a quid pro quo involving campaign donations.

"I imagine Stephanie Kunze, like me, accepts money from a lot of people," he said. "I've taken money from Bill Lager. I also was a direct cosponsor of (Sen. Peggy Lehner's) bill to reform ECOT and charter schools from day one."

"I guess the inverse question there would be, 'If the (Ohio Education Association) paid money to Stephanie Kunze, do you think she'd change?' I'm guessing probably not."

The debate over ECOT escalated considerably in recent weeks as ODE moved forward with plans to review the schools attendance records. In the latest twist, the *Columbus Dispatch* reported Thursday that ECOT is refusing to release some of the requested data.

As election season progresses, Democrats have increasingly pointed to the majority GOP's ties to ECOT, which has been at the forefront of the Republican-led expansion of the charter industry in the state.

Carrying forward the support of his predecessor, Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) spoke at this year's ECOT graduation ceremony, which in the past has been attended by other prominent Republican officeholders.

The Ohio Democratic Party recently called for a moratorium on state funding to ECOT and a larger investigation into the state's charter school system, stating: "Last year as the Ohio General Assembly considered a bill to reform charter schools, Lager gave nearly \$150,000 to 21 Ohio Republican legislators over the course of two months."

RNC Update: Trump Confirms Pence As VP Pick; 'Never Trump' Efforts Fail...

Donald Trump on Friday became the first presumptive nominee to announce his vice presidential pick via Twitter.

As expected, Mr. Trump confirmed he has tabbed Indiana Gov. Mike Pence as his running mate in a tweet shortly before 11 a.m.

Mr. Trump had previously announced he was postponing the New York City press conference where he was expected to make the announcement following a mass killing in Nice, France.

But Gov. Pence faced a noon deadline Friday by which to withdraw from his gubernatorial reelection bid in order for the Indiana Republican Party to name a replacement candidate, meaning the news would have been confirmed then even without an announcement from the Trump campaign.

The formal news conference will now take place at 11 a.m. Saturday in New Jersey.

Word broke Thursday that the first term Indiana governor and former congressman was to be Mr. Trump's No. 2.

Gov. Pence has been engaged in a gubernatorial rematch with Democrat John Gregg - a race that's taken on a new element of competitiveness following Republican discontent over Mr. Pence's handling of last year's so-called Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Mr. Pence, well thought of in religious conservative circles, is seen as an attempt by Mr. Trump to appeal to that voter bloc and to create inroads with Congress, where Gov. Pence served from 2001-2013.

The campaign of DNC presumptive nominee Hillary Clinton immediately blasted the pick in a statement, calling it the "most extreme VP pick in a generation."

Clinton campaign Chairman John Podesta criticized the governor for defunding Planned Parenthood, advocating early on for the Tea Party movement, and signing a religious freedom law that opponents say legalized discrimination against LGBT citizens.

"By picking Mike Pence as his running mate, Donald Trump has doubled down on some of his most disturbing beliefs by choosing an incredibly divisive and unpopular running mate known for supporting discriminatory politics and failed economic policies that favor millionaires and corporations over working families," Mr. Podesta said.

The campaign then promptly organized a media call featuring allied groups criticizing the Republican ticket.

Rules Committee: GOP leaders and Trump loyalists thwarted plans to undermine Mr. Trump's candidacy during a closely watched RNC Rules Committee meeting Thursday.

The morning meeting was delayed several hours while party leaders attempted to negotiate with members of the "Never Trump" movement, but talks soon fell apart. Those members had hoped to change rules to permit delegates to vote their conscience, thereby freeing bound delegates to vote against Mr. Trump on the first ballot.

But as the day wore on it became clear the anti-Trump contingent had too little support for success and lacked the required votes to create a minority report that would have ensured debate on the issue before the full convention next week. Amendment author Kendal Unruh said she would still attempt to earn the required 28 signatures for a minority report.

Following much debate, delegates also shot down a proposed amendment that would have barred lobbyists from being members of the RNC - a change Ohio delegate and lobbyist JoAnn Davidson strongly criticized in remarks before the body.

The committee, which had planned to meet Friday, eventually finished the agenda late Thursday and adjourned. The rules package will be sent to the full convention Monday for consideration.

RNC Chairman Reince Priebus said the meeting "made clear the high level of unity within our Party."

"Grassroots voices from every state and territory have crafted a set of rules which will keep our party strong at the local, state, and national level, and we honored the spirit of democracy by conducting our Rules Committee meeting in a completely open and transparent fashion," he said.

Schedule: The RNC had not yet released an official schedule of events for convention week in Cleveland as of midday Friday, just two days before the RNC is schedule to kickoff.

But Ohio leaders and others have already announced a slew of ancillary events timed to capitalize on the convention crowd.

The Ohio Republican Party will host daily 8 a.m. breakfasts featuring Treasurer Josh Mandel and U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton (Monday); U.S. Rep. Bill Johnson and Frank Luntz (Tuesday); U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi and House Speaker Paul Ryan (Wednesday); and Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor, U.S. Sen. Rob Portman, and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi (Thursday).

The ORP already announced a 3:30 p.m. Tuesday event at the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame to honor Gov. John Kasich.

A sampling of other events during the course of the week includes:

- Sunday - a "Taste of Little Italy" event featuring Attorney General Mike DeWine at 3 p.m. at Tony Brush Park
- Monday - a 3 p.m. campaign event in which Sen. Rob Portman, former Speaker Newt Gingrich and Sen. Joni Ernst will address Sen. Portman volunteers at the Tri-C Metropolitan Campus
- Tuesday, a 10:15 a.m. reception for media members with Sen. Rob Portman; and 11 a.m. welcome tea hosted by the Ohio Federation of Republican Women at the Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square featuring U.S. Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.)

A partial list of convention speakers was officially released Thursday, although the time and dates of the speeches have yet to be announced by the RNC.

In contrast, the Democratic National Convention Committee announced Friday the headline speakers for the DNC in Philadelphia later this month. They include First Lady Michelle Obama and Sen. Bernie Sanders July 25, President Bill Clinton July 26, President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden July 27, and Hillary Clinton and Chelsea Clinton July 28.

A series of musical acts will perform each day of the RNC at Freedom Plaza, which will also include drinks and food. For a complete list, visit the RNC's website. An evening

concert, featuring a variety of "American Idol" and "The Voice" winners will take place at 11 p.m. Tuesday at Gray's Armory.

The Clinton campaign and the DNC, meanwhile, are organizing their own counter events in Cleveland with a slew of press conferences and conference calls aimed at undercutting the RNC. Former Gov. Ted Strickland and the Ohio Democratic Party will also ramp up their attacks on U.S. Sen. Rob Portman as they seek to link him to Mr. Trump.

Other groups have scheduled their own events to criticize Republicans. The Ohio AFL-CIO is set to "welcome" Republicans to the city during a 2 p.m. Sunday event featuring former Gov. Ted Strickland at the Laborers' Local 310 Hall.

ProgressOhio has created a calendar of counter events that includes a "Daily Show" convention sideshow, League of Women Voters voter registration drives, and daily nonviolence training for protestors.

Bob Bennett: The City of Cleveland granted a secondary street name to the intersection of Ontario Street and Huron Road for the duration of the convention. The intersection will be known as Bob Bennett Way in honor of former ORP chairman.

"More than any one person, Bob Bennett steadfastly sought to bring the Convention to Cleveland," Ohio Republican Party Chairman Matt Borges said. "We are sad that he is not here to see the world spotlight on Cleveland, but grateful to the Mayor's office for honoring him in this way so that we can acknowledge his contribution to this week."

Tourism: With the RNC expected to draw 50,000 people to Cleveland, TourismOhio is rolling out all the stops to showcase Ohio, according to a press release.

The group is launching a 360 degree "virtual reality experience" during the convention, to capitalize on visitors and showcase various Ohio hotspots.

The experience will be hosted in a 40-passenger bus located outside the Quicken Loans Arena, according to the release, and will "offer a personal Ohio adventure for participants with a wide range of interests." Those not at the event can take part online.

Some of the featured items include Cedar Point, Hocking Hills, parasailing over Lake Erie, and various Cleveland attractions.

Campus Culture Survey Results To Inform Continued Sexual Violence Prevention, Response Efforts

Students largely believe that their colleges and universities would seriously address sexual assault reports and take corrective action against offenders, according to their responses on surveys disseminated by all of the state's public institutions.

The surveys were an integral piece of the Changing Campus Culture initiative, which the Department of Higher Education launched last fall in an effort to encourage best practices in preventing and responding to sexual violence on campuses. (Survey Results)

Chancellor John Carey urged schools to join the voluntary effort and they responded. All of Ohio's public universities and 80% of private institutions participated in the campus climate survey that asked students to give feedback on how they think sexual assault is being handled and whether they know how to file reports.

Michelle Johnston, the University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande Community College president who has been the face of the initiative, said she's encouraged by the swell of interest in improving sexual violence policies.

The feedback, she said, will be used to steer the other facets of the \$2-million initiative, which include developing comprehensive response policies, adopting survivor-centered responses, launching awareness campaigns and implementing comprehensive training programs.

"With 100% of our public colleges and universities completing a common survey of our students, we have a clearer picture of where we are, collectively and as unique institutions," she said in a statement. "Using this data, we will thoroughly analyze where we are now and will chart a course for where we want to be, in relation to positive and safe environments on our campuses."

Students who responded to the survey agreed, on average, that the university would take sexual assault reports seriously and would support those making the reports. The average respondent also said the university would take corrective action against offenders and would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation.

However, students largely disagreed or were neutral with a survey statement that sexual violence is not a problem on their campuses and responses were mixed on a question of understanding institution policies for addressing complaints.

Less than one-third of students reported they don't know the contact information to get on-campus support for sexual violence despite about 13% of them saying they knew women who had been assaulted on campus.

"As I have shared many times before, numbers don't lie, and in the case of sexual violence on our campuses in Ohio, the numbers tell a story that needs a better ending," Ms. Johnston said of why the initiative was launched in October.

In addition to the aggregate data compiled by ODHE, the agency said campuses also administered more comprehensive surveys that will inform policies specific to individual institutions. All public institutions and 88% of private colleges and universities completed those surveys.

Ohio is one of few states in the country that has collected such data, according to ODHE. Much of the work to complete the surveys was done with the help of grants that were funded with a portion of the \$2 million allocated to the initiative in the biennium budget (HB 64).

The grants are also to be used to support putting best practices in place. The overall budget funding has paid for, among other things, webinars and summits to keep institutions engaged in the initiative and collaborating with one another.

"It's exciting to see Ohio dedicating state resources to collect prevalence data, support survivors and prevent sexual violence on college campuses, and partnering with the coalition and rape crisis centers," said Monika Johnson Hostler, the president of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

"It is through this strategic, long-term investment and the development of partnerships between campuses and community-based programs that we will see long-term positive change for students."

Becker Defends Right-To-Work Bill For Public Sector, Acknowledges Its Passage Is A Longshot

The sponsor of public sector right-to-work legislation defends introducing the controversial measure while acknowledging it is likely dead-on-arrival.

Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.) said legislation (HB 583) that would remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization is good policy that will likely not be well-received in the General Assembly.

"It's something my constituents have been demanding for a long time," he said in an interview. "I think it's good for Ohio and hopefully it will be able to move forward."

But We Are Ohio, which was formed in opposition to similar legislation designed to curtail the collective bargaining power of public sector unions, slammed the proposal, saying that workers in state with similar laws make less money and are more prone to on-the-job injuries.

"We believe right-to-work is wrong for Ohio, for working people, for all of us," spokesman Dennis Willard said in an interview.

"There is no support from working people in this state for this extreme idea."

Asked about the likelihood of the bill becoming law, Rep. Becker said he has "no reason to be optimistic."

"I have no feedback one way or the other, but based on the public comments that the governor has made and based on my feelings of what's going on in the Senate or where they might be, I'm not optimistic," he said.

Gov. John Kasich has said repeatedly that right-to-work legislation is not on his agenda in the wake of the public rebuke over similar legislation (SB5, 129th General Assembly) that was struck down by the state's voters in a labor-backed referendum.

John Fourtney, spokesman for the Senate Majority Caucus, said the measure has yet to be vetted by members. However, Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) has spoken favorably of eliminating a requirement for union shop employees to pay union dues (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 4, 2013), but has said the support is not there among his members. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 3, 2013)

Carolyn Best, spokeswoman for Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), also said the bill will be discussed further among caucus members in the fall.

The fight over Senate Bill 5 galvanized the labor movement, and Rep. Becker acknowledged that the introduction of similar legislation could provide good political fodder for Democrats in an election year.

"I could see that being a drawback. It just gives the Democrats another talking point and a fundraising letter to send out," he said.

However, he said his measure is different from Senate Bill 5 in that it does not address collective bargaining benefits.

"It is simply an opt-out for public sector employees," he said.

Democrats and labor groups have derided right-to-work legislation for allowing those who opt out of paying union dues to still receive the benefits from negotiated terms of contracts. But Rep. Becker said those who opt-out under his legislation would no longer be protected by unions.

"If they run into some kind of trouble with management, they will not be able to look to the union," he said, adding that it is up to management to decide how to deal with the wages and benefits of non-union employees.

Critics have also said that right-to-work legislation is designed to weaken unions both financially and politically. Rep. Becker, however, also downplayed that critique.

"I wouldn't expect a mass exodus from unions if this were to be signed into law," he said. "If there were a significant exit, it would tell me that there's a problem with the unions. If the only way they can maintain their union through a captive audience then they need to be looking in the mirror."

Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper called the bill a "sneak attack on Ohio's working families for the lame duck session."

Education Notes: ECOT Defends Decision To Withhold Log-In Data; Antioch Receives Accreditation; Lawmaker Urges Standards Feedback

A spokesman for the state's largest online charter school is defending the school's refusal to hand over student log-in data requested by the Department of Education.

Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow is not breaking any laws by refusing the data that's at the center of a lawsuit alleging ODE will misuse that information to determine per-pupil funding, school spokesman Neil Clark said.

A Franklin County judge earlier this week denied ECOT's request for a temporary restraining order to stop ODE from moving forward with an audit until after the court rules how student attendance should be used to inform payment totals.

ODE on Monday moved forward with the attendance review, but an email from the agency's attorney to ECOT revealed that the school was refusing to turn over the log-in and log-out information for students.

The agency's attorney Douglas Cole requested access to the documents be immediately provided, but Mr. Clark said that won't be happening.

"We're saying we're not doing anything unless the court tells us to," he said in an interview.

ECOT is interpreting the judge's decision differently than ODE, he said. While it may have allowed the audit to move forward, there is no specification that the review can occur in a way that conflicts with a contract between the school and ODE

The school's lawsuit argues that ODE's decision to not provide funding for students who weren't logging in at least five hours per day is out of line with an agreement that has been in place for previous audits. That contractual agreement states that the school must offer up to 920 hours of learning opportunities - not that students must partake, Mr. Clark said.

"It's just not about did you show up today, it's far more detailed than that; it's how did you get to that 920?" he said.

ODE, meanwhile, is contending that online schools are required by state law to make daily student participation records accessible, regardless of how that information is being used. Mr. Evans said in his email a statute specifying that mandate has been in place since February.

The e-school's governing board was expected to meet Friday - mostly in executive session - to discuss the lawsuit and next steps.

Accreditation: Antioch College this week announced it has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

The independent college had spent the last two years pursuing accreditation after reopening in 2011. Originally founded in 1850, it closed in 2008 amid financial troubles and leaders have since been focused on building the historic institution back up.

President Tom Manley said in a video posted to YouTube that the university can now focus its attention on continuing to build a financial foundation and recruit students.

"This great result comes from the hard work of our faculty, our staff, students, our alumni who have been so incredibly supportive and the leadership of our board of trustees," he said. "It is a ringing endorsement of the quality and strength of the education that Antioch college can now offer, and it is a vote of confidence in our ability to offer that education for years to come. "

The commission's decision is retroactive, meaning the recent graduates in the class of 2016 will receive diplomas from an accredited institution, Antioch reported.

Standards Revisions: Rep. Jack Cera is urging educators and the public to provide feedback on proposed revisions to English and math standards.

The Bellaire Democrat said his constituents have shared frustration with the current common core standards, known as Ohio's Learning Standards, and now is the time to recommend changes.

Through 5 p.m. Aug. 1, ODE is accepting public comments on the proposed revisions that were drafted in response to the work of a task force and an earlier public survey.

"I wanted to take the time to share this opportunity with the people of the 96th District because I have received many questions from teachers, parents and administrators about the education department's new revisions," he said. "This is a perfect opportunity for parents to get involved in the process and voice their questions, comments and concerns with those who create these standards directly."

Court Briefs: Dems File Brief In 'Golden Week' Case; 1851 Center Seeks To Stop Eminent Domain For Pipeline; Judicial College Employee Honored

The Ohio Democratic Party has thrown its weight behind an effort to ensure that unregistered voters have a small window prior to the presidential election to register and cast a ballot on the same day.

In a brief filed with U.S. Sixth District Court of Appeals, the party asks the court to uphold a lower court ruling that found the elimination of "Golden Week" to be a violation of the Voting Rights Act.

"Jon Husted and Mike DeWine continue to waste time and money in court, ignoring the Constitution and clear precedent while attempting to make it harder to vote," Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper said in a statement.

"In their appeal, Husted and DeWine blatantly disregard the fact that eliminating an additional week of early voting and same-day registration disproportionately impacted African-American voters. The Ohio Democratic Party will always fight to protect the fundamental right to vote for all eligible citizens."

In his ruling, U.S. District Court Judge Michael Watson found that the elimination of Golden Week disproportionately impacted black voters in Ohio. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 24, 2016)

In a separate decision, Judge Watson denied a request to stay the ruling for the November presidential election while the decision is appealed.

ODP is now accusing Secretary of State Jon Husted of failing to heed the ruling by not providing accurate information for voters about the start of early voting on his office's website.

"Jon Husted has a long history of blatantly ignoring court decisions that have rebuked his attacks on Ohioans' voting rights, and his refusal, once again, to provide accurate information about early voting is plainly designed to mislead Ohioans about their voting rights," Mr. Pepper said.

"If he won't relent and update the misleading information his office is providing, we will take action to ensure he follows the court order restoring 'Golden Week.' The Ohio Democratic Party will always fight to protect the fundamental right to vote for all eligible citizens."

Husted spokesman Josh Eck said the website won't be changed while the case is under appeal.

"The ruling was stayed for the upcoming August Special Election and is currently on appeal ahead of the November election. It would be irresponsible for the Secretary to begin advertising changes that may very well have to undergo further changes before the General Election, as they did in 2012," he said.

"Secretary Husted is committed to making sure all voters know the rules and can participate and we welcome others to join us in pursuing clarity over chaos."

Eminent Domain: The 1851 Center for Constitutional Law has asked the Wood County Common Pleas Court to dismiss more than a dozen eminent domain cases filed by a Texas pipeline company.

The group said in a court filing that Kinder Morgan's eminent domain action against 15 families in the Bowling Green area violates Ohio's constitution because the project for which it is seeking the land is not a "public necessity."

The land would be used for the "Utopia Pipeline," a private ethane pipeline running underground to a Canadian plastics factory.

"Imagine that a private sector lawyer desired to get to the Wood County Court of Common Pleas faster. Could he forcibly appropriate others' private land along the route, from his front door step to the court's parking lot to build a personal road, with no on-ramps or exits, and twenty foot walls on either side, just to represent one very wealthy client who anticipated routinely using his services?" the filing reads.

"If the answer is 'no,' then it must be here as well. And it is 'no,' because no such road would be a public use, even if the lawyer appealed to the public interest in 'justice' and 'market demand for lawyers.'"

Maurice Thompson, the group's executive director, said in a statement the proposed eminent domain action is "redistribution of wealth of the worst sort."

"The abuse along the Utopia Pipeline is a prime example of what can happen when legislators attempt to auction off Ohioans' property rights to the highest bidder," he said. "Ultimately, the Ohio Constitution prevents this abuse, and we will prevail in court. But statutes inviting this sort of behavior should be amended or repealed."

Honor: A long-time employee of the Ohio Judicial College has been nationally recognized for his work, the high court reported.

Kristopher Steele, an education program manager, received the 2016 Perkins Award from the National Association for Court Management

"It's because of employees like Kristopher that the Supreme Court has an outstanding reputation nationally," Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor said in a statement. "I have received multiple compliments about the Judicial College programs and our staff from my colleagues when attending national meetings."

"I am honored to win this award and will accept it on behalf of all the other dedicated personnel working behind the scenes at courts to help improve services to their communities," Mr. Steele said.

Agency Briefs: AG's Office Doles Out Funding To Rape Crisis Centers; BWC; SOS; ODNR; PUCO; Senate

Attorney General Mike DeWine on Friday announced that 29 rape crisis centers across the state will receive more than \$1.4 million in grant funding.

"We owe it to survivors of sexual assault to make sure they receive comprehensive support after an attack," AG DeWine said. "These funds will go toward helping agencies across the state to provide quality, compassionate care to those who need it."

The following 28 agencies will all receive \$45,803:

- Abuse and Rape Crisis Center of Warren County
- Alive, Inc., Steubenville
- Appleseed Community Mental Health Center, Ashland
- Cleveland Rape Crisis Center
- Compass Rape Crisis Center, Stark County
- Compass Rape Crisis Center, Tuscarawas County
- Compass Family and Community Services, Youngstown
- Council on Domestic Violence/Open Arms, Findlay
- Crime Victim Services, Lima
- Edna Brooks Foundation/My Sister's Place, Athens
- Erie County Prosecutor
- Eve, Inc., Marietta
- Haven of Hope, Cambridge
- Helpline of Delaware and Morrow Counties
- Highland County Domestic Violence Task Force
- Lake County Prosecutor
- New Directions, Mt. Vernon
- OneEighty, Wayne County

- Project Woman, Springfield
- Rape Crisis Center of Medina and Summit Counties
- Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio
- The Cocoon, Bowling Green
- The Domestic Violence Shelter, Mansfield
- The Nord Center, Lorain
- Townhall II, Kent
- Tri-County Help Center, St. Clairsville
- Women Helping Women, Cincinnati
- YWCA of Northwest Ohio, Toledo

Another \$142,500 will be distributed to the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

BWC: As the Bureau of Workers' Compensation transitions to prospective billing, it is asking private employers to report their actual payroll for the policy year ended June 30 and to reconcile any differences in premium paid prior to the closure of the "True-up" window on Aug. 15.

Employers will be removed from their current rating plan or discount program if it BWC does not receive a payroll true-up by the due date. Outstanding payroll true-ups will render the employer ineligible for participation in future rating plans or discount programs until all outstanding payroll true-ups are complete.

"This step is an important part of BWC's ongoing efforts to modernize operations and provide better service to Ohio's employers," BWC Administrator/CEO Sarah Morrison said in a statement. "It's also necessary for BWC to accurately calculate an employer's premium and for employers to maintain their participation in current rating plan or discount programs."

The transition, according to BWC, has allowed it to reduce base rates and offer employers more flexible payment options and the ability to better forecast their costs.

True-ups can be completed online and if done through the web qualifies eligible employers for a 1% premium rebate, up to a \$2,000 maximum.

The payroll true-up may also be completed through the call center at 1-800-644-6292.

Secretary of State: Jon Husted announced 8,480 new state business filings in June. The figure represents an increase over the same period on 2015, when 8,151 entities were formed.

June was again a record setting month for business filing; 4,300 more entities have filed so far in 2016 than at the same point in 2015.

New filings increased 21.8% from 2010-2015.

Department of Natural Resources: A total of 2,192 permits have been issued for drilling on the Utica Shale as of July 9, according to data from the Division of Oil and Gas Resources.

A total of 1,756 wells have been drilled, and 1,334 wells are in production, according to the ODNR.

The department also announced that Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor attended the opening ceremonies for the Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation National Championship at the Cardinal Shooting Center in Marengo.

PUCO: The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is remind consumers that that they may be eligible for budget billing.

The program, offered by Ohio's regulated electric and natural gas distribution companies, allows consumers to avoid spikes in billion in the summer and winter months.

General Assembly: Legislative staff and members of the Senate collected more than 33,000 pounds of canned food for the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

The internal food drive also generated \$3,000 in donations, which will provide 39,500 meals to local residents.

From Congress: Brown, Portman Applaud U.S. Attorney Confirmation; Kaptur Applauds Funding Awards; Gibbs; Ryan

Ohio's senators this week applauded the confirmation of Carole Rendon as the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) and U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) recommended Ms. Rendon, a former first assistant U.S. attorney, for the post last month.

"No one is more qualified to serve as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District than Carole Rendon," Sen. Brown said in a statement. "Now that she is confirmed she can continue her work on behalf of Ohioans."

Sen. Portman said, "Carole Rendon is a proud Ohioan, an accomplished lawyer, and a dedicated public servant. She has already served Ohio with distinction for seven years, and I'm pleased that she will continue as U.S. Attorney for Northern Ohio. I am grateful to my colleagues for making the right decision and confirming her nomination."

Border: Sen. Brown urged customs and border protection to launch an investigation into produce made using child and forced labor.

Joining with Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), he wrote to CBP Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske decrying a loophole that allows some of those products into the country if there is not a sufficient supply.

"We urge you to continue that dialogue with regular meetings between NGOs, as well as other stakeholders, and CBP, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the State Department, and the Department of Labor and a meeting in the very near term to discuss issues related to regulations. Increased communication will lead to more successful petitions and better enforcement against forced labor imports," the senators wrote.

Funding: U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo) applauded several instances of new funding awarded to her district this week.

First she welcomed news of a \$700 million retooling of Toledo's Jeep North Assembly Plant.

The project, which will equip the plant for production of the next generation of Jeep Wrangler, was announced this week by Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and promises 700 new jobs.

"This is almost beyond belief, given where we were eight short years ago," Rep. Kaptur said. "For seventy-five years Toledans have manufactured Wranglers. FCA's investment today will ensure this legacy remains for years to come."

The Cleveland Hopkins International Airport will also receive \$22.1 million in federal funds for improvements including safety upgrades and new snow removal equipment.

Lastly, Rep. Kaptur announced the award of a \$3.1 million grant to the Lorain Fire Department and the city of Lorain aimed at addressing a staffing crisis.

The funds, from FEMA's Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response program, aim to fix the fallout of the recent layoffs of 22 members of the city's fire department.

"This is obviously great news," Rep. Kaptur said. "Credit should go to the Lorain firefighters, who have actively organized in recent weeks and made their case effectively and persuasively, and to Lorain Mayor Chase Ritenauer and Lorain Fire Chief Tom Brown. Their diligence in helping to find a solution brought about this two-year solution to an immediate problem."

Zika: U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs and colleagues urged President Barack Obama to expand protections against the Zika virus. The Obama Administration has opposed a resolution that would permit mosquito control programs to implement control plans without duplicative permits, Rep. Gibbs said.

"I want to know why it is acceptable for Puerto Rico to increase their defense against Zika, but not the rest of the United States?" Rep. Gibbs asked in a statement. "All Americans should be protected against the spread of Zika and I encourage the president to change his mind and allow the increased use of live-saving pesticides and give pregnant women safety from this terrible illness. If the President ends his opposition to the Conference report, Congress can take swift action to protect those most vulnerable to Zika."

An amendment on Zika from U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Niles), meanwhile, failed with a 20-29 committee vote. It would have stricken a funding cap of \$461 million on bilateral family planning and created a funding floor of \$585 million to administer anti-Zika programs.

"I am deeply disappointed that House Republicans rejected this amendment and have decided to turn their back on thousands of men and women struggling through this crisis," Rep. Ryan said.

Abortions: Rep. Gibbs applauded the House passage of legislation aimed at protecting health care professionals who refuse to participate in providing abortions.

The lawmaker supported the bill, saying it protects the religious freedom of those professionals.

"The House's vote today gives those willing to exercise their beliefs the option of using the court system if their employment is in jeopardy, instead of being at the mercy of a government bureaucracy," he said. "It is critical that we not only protect the unborn, but protect those whose livelihoods may be at stake for providing that protection."

Trade: An amendment from Rep. Ryan that would require an impact analysis on free trade agreements on wages and the demand for educator workers passed a House committee this week by voice vote.

The amendment is to a measure that would require the Bureau of Labor Statistics to submit a report on the impact of such agreements on the American workforce.

"All that you need to do is look at the shuttered factories and shattered communities across Ohio to see the devastating affect free trade agreements have had across our country," he said. "I am proud that my amendment passed and we will soon be able to know the true cost of these deals to our nation," Mr. Ryan said.

Israel: Sen. Portman and Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.) released a bipartisan report from the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations examining government grants to OneVoice, which is a non-governmental organization in Israel and Palestine.

The report examines the nearly \$350,000 in grants received from the State Department to foster peace between the two counties. The report determined the NGO complied with the department's terms but shortly after the terms expired used the funds to support a political campaign.

"The State Department ignored warnings signs and funded a politically active group in a politically sensitive environment with inadequate safeguards," Sen. Portman said. "It is completely unacceptable that U.S. taxpayer dollars were used to build a political campaign infrastructure that was deployed - immediately after the grant ended - against the leader of our closest ally in the Middle East. American resources should be used to help our allies in the region, not undermine them."

SNAP: Rep. Ryan this week sought to push for increased digital access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

"If we continue on our current trajectory, we will have an adult obesity rate of 60% within 15 years," he said. "In a country, where 23.5 million people live in food deserts, we cannot allow the status quo to continue and must find new ways for all Americans to have access to fresh, healthy food."

Gongwer's Ohio Convention Coverage

Gongwer News Service's planned coverage of the Republican National Convention in Cleveland next week will include regular updates to the website during the day.

Significant breaking news will be distributed through email alerts but subscribers can check the website throughout each day of the convention for updates focusing on activities of the Ohio delegation and other events.

Subscribers may also follow reporter Mikel Livingston and Gongwer on Twitter for links to those updates on our website. Mike's account is @mikellivingston and the main account is @gongwer.

Attorney General's Opinion

No. 2016-023, Requested by Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney Gregg Marx.
SYLLABUS:

1. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by Violet Township may provide medical services in nonemergency situations pursuant to R.C. 4765.361, so long as the medical services are performed under the direction of the emergency medical technician's medical director or cooperating physician advisory

board, are within the scope of practice of the emergency medical technician, and do not conflict with the emergency medical services described in R.C. 4765.37, R.C. 4765.38, R.C. 4765.39, and the rules adopted by the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services.

2. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by a township is immune from civil liability for injury, death, or loss to person or property resulting from the provision of medical services in a nonemergency situation unless the services are provided in a manner that constitutes wanton or willful misconduct, the services are manifestly outside the scope of the emergency medical technician's employment, or the services are performed with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in a wanton or reckless manner.

3. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by a township may not provide medical services on a routine, day-to-day basis outside the boundaries of the township when revenue from a township tax levy pays the emergency medical technician's compensation, unless the township has entered into a contract with another political subdivision pursuant to R.C. 9.60 or R.C. 505.44, or the township provides the medical services to the territory of another township or municipal corporation as a member of a joint fire district pursuant to R.C. 505.371, a fire and ambulance district pursuant to R.C. 505.375, or a joint ambulance district pursuant to R.C. 505.71.

4. A board of township trustees may establish reasonable charges for the use of medical services that are provided by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by the township in nonemergency situations and may collect those charges from a private hospital system that agrees to pay those charges on behalf of the recipient of the medical services.

5. A board of township trustees may contract with a private hospital system to provide medical services in nonemergency situations by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by the township to patients of the hospital who are residents and nonresidents of the township, so long as the private hospital system is a nonprofit corporation and the medical services are performed within the territory of the township.

6. A contract between the Violet Township Board of Trustees and a private hospital system for the provision of medical services in nonemergency situations may provide that the private hospital system will pay the township a sum of money for each visit performed by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic pursuant to the contract and that emergency medical technicians will provide medical services in nonemergency situations during the emergency medical technicians' regular work hours.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, July 20

Rail Development Commission, 1980 West Broad Street, Rm. GA, Columbus, 11 a.m.

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 3 p.m. (Dropout Prevention and Recovery Study Committee)

Thursday, July 21

Board of Building Standards, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 9 a.m. (Code Committee)

Cemetery Dispute Resolution Commission, Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing, 77 South High Street, 22nd Floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Saturday, July 16

Gov. John Kasich to speak at 107th NAACP Convention, Duke Energy Convention Center, Hall A, 525 Elm St., Cincinnati, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 27

Beginning of Ohio State Fair

Sunday, August 7

End of Ohio State Fair

Sunday, October 2

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) fall fest fundraiser, Peterson Farm, 5564 Grassy Branch Rd., Sabina, 4 p.m., (\$50 per Family | \$25 per Person to Peterson for Good Government)

Thursday, October 20

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) shooting fundraiser, Vandalia Range and Armory, 100 Corp Center Drive, Vandalia, 5:30 p.m., (\$1000 Event Sponsor, includes up to 6 participants; \$500 Lane Sponsor, includes up to 4 participants; \$150 per couple | \$100 per person | \$50 Dinner only to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2016, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101

et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.

From: Westlake, Libby
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 5:54 AM
To: Westlake, Libby
Subject: E-Clips for 2/2/2017

HOUSE E-CLIPS

2/02/2017



JUDGE BLOCKS OHIO LAW THAT WOULD BAN SOME LOCAL HIRING RULES

A judge has blocked an Ohio law that would have barred local hiring regulations for public projects, such as Cleveland's requirement that city residents get to work on certain projects.



CRITICS SLAM KASICH'S FLAT-FUNDING OF DRUG-ADDICTION FIGHT

Ohio Gov. John Kasich stood firm Wednesday against charges from lawmakers and others that the state is not doing enough to tackle the nation's leading number of drug-overdose deaths, principally from opioids.

KASICH TAX PLAN FACES QUESTIONS FROM HOUSE PANEL

State Budget Director Tim Keen spent about four hours in front of the House Finance Committee Wednesday testifying and answering a variety of questions about Gov. John Kasich's new two-year budget.

KASICH SAYS STATE DID ALL IT COULD TO LAND \$1.4 BILLION AMAZON HUB

Ohio may have landed three Amazon data centers and two distribution centers in the Columbus area, but Gov. John Kasich today lamented one that got away.

KASICH ADMINISTRATION MAKES FINAL PUSH TO MEDICAID MANAGED CARE

Gov. John Kasich plans to move the last group of Medicaid beneficiaries into private managed care plans, more than 150,000 mostly elderly and disabled Ohioans receiving long-term care services at home or in nursing facilities.

THE DAILY BRIEFING: DAVID PEPPER, JANE TIMKEN DIFFER ON WHICH PARTY HAS MORE ENERGY

The first joint appearance of Ohio's current major political party leaders was highlighted by an energy debate.

EDITORIAL: A CHECKUP FOR FISCAL HEALTH

No one can see the future, but there are ways to get an inkling of where things are headed.

DAYTON MAYOR NAN WHALEY 'CONSIDERING' RUN FOR GOVERNOR

Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley says she is considering a run for governor in 2018.

**KASICH GIVES HIS TAKE ON THE WRIGHT BROTHERS, TRUMP AND OHIO'S
IMAGE**

Ohio Gov. John Kasich seemed to be in a feisty mood Wednesday when he fielded questions from the press at a forum sponsored by the Associated Press in Columbus.

**OHIO GOV JOHN KASICH REACTS TO LOSS OF 300 AMAZON JOBS TO
KENTUCKY**

Gov. John Kasich said Amazon picked northern Kentucky over Wilmington in large part because the airport in Covington has plenty of capacity and the Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky metro area has the workforce.

THE PLAIN DEALER

**OHIO GOV. JOHN KASICH PROPOSES ADDING BUSINESS EXPERTS TO LOCAL
SCHOOL BOARDS**

A proposal from Ohio Gov. John Kasich would add three non-voting members to every local school board to keep them apprised of the needs of the business community.

**NEW OHIO GOP CHAIRWOMAN JANE TIMKEN'S MESSAGE FOR KASICH ALLIES:
'I WILL NOT KEEP SCORE'**

New Ohio Republican Party Chairwoman Jane Timken pledged Wednesday not to retaliate against those who did not back her campaign.

**OHIO TO APPEAL COURT RULING PRESERVING CLEVELAND'S FANNIE LEWIS
LAW**

The state will appeal a Cuyahoga County court decision that upheld Cleveland's Fannie Lewis Law guaranteeing that local residents get a percentage of work on public projects.

'RIGHT TO WORK' WON'T BE POPULAR IN OHIO, STATE LAWMAKERS SAY

As congressional Republicans consider a national "right to work" law, Ohio state legislators said Ohioans don't necessarily want anti-union legislation.

**OHIO'S 2018 U.S. SENATE RACE ON TRACK TO BE EXPENSIVE: OHIO POLITICS
ROUNDUP**

The Ohio U.S. Senate race in 2018 is on track to get expensive. Republican U.S. Rep. Jim Renacci of Ohio appears to be on the path to run for governor.

THE ENQUIRER

KASICH: LOSING AMAZON HUB ISN'T 'GAME OVER' FOR WILMINGTON

Better job applicants and facilities led Amazon to choose Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport over Wilmington for its worldwide air cargo hub, Ohio Gov. John Kasich told reporters Wednesday.

THE BLADE

One of America's Great Newspapers

BUDGET CHIEF: KASICH CONSERVATIVE ON GROWTH

Gov. John Kasich has warned against lawmakers' using rosier revenue projections to justify additional spending over the next two years, but a legislative agency on Wednesday estimated that revenues will climb at a faster pace than his administration has predicted.

The Vindicator

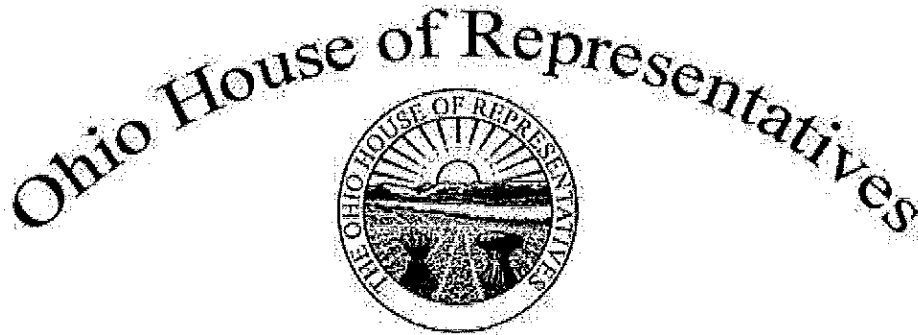
VALLEY LEGISLATORS APPOINTED AS RANKING DEMS TO STATE HOUSE,

SENATE COMMITTEES

Three Ohio House Democrats who represent the Mahoning Valley were named as ranking minority members on committees in the state Legislature.

From: Thawley, Roanna
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 8:08 AM
To: Thawley, Roanna
Subject: DEADLINE EXTENDED Co-Sponsor Request: Public Sector Right-to-Work

****Deadline extended to Monday, February 6, 2017 @
5 PM.****



Representative John Becker
Ohio's 65th House District

MEMORANDUM

To: GOP House Members
From: Representative John Becker
Date: February 2, 2017
RE: Co-Sponsor Request: Public Sector Right-to-Work

I will soon be reintroducing a public sector right-to-work bill. This bill was previously introduced in the 131st General Assembly as HB 583.

There is a national trend of states moving to implement right-to-work laws. With Kentucky being the 27th state to continue that trend, it's time Ohio steps up to the plate. All of Ohio's neighboring states, with the exception of Pennsylvania, have right-to-work laws on the books.

This legislation:

- Provides public sector workers the choice to opt out of union representation and dues.
- Allows non-union employees to voluntarily make financial contributions to a union.
- Protects unions from the requirement of representing non-union employees.
- Appropriates \$30,000 in fiscal year 17 for pamphlets and brochures.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact Roanna Thawley at (614) 466-8134 or Roanna.Thawley@ohiohouse.gov. The deadline to co-sponsor is COB, Monday, February 6, 2017. Thank you for your consideration.

Roanna Thawley

Legislative Aide

State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65

77 S. High Street, 12th Floor | Columbus, OH 43215

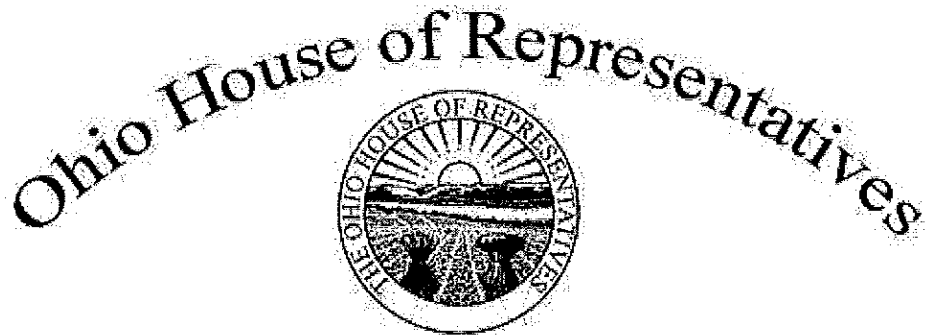
(614) 466-8134

roanna.thawley@ohiohouse.gov

From: Thawley, Roanna
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 9:18 AM
To: Thawley, Roanna
Subject: REMINDER: DEADLINE EXTENDED Co-Sponsor Request: Public Sector Right-to-Work

Current co-sponsors are Representatives Hood, Brinkman, Dean, Thompson, Vitale, Goodman, Riedel, Roegner, Merrin, Antani, Zeltwanger, and Keller. If you would like to join, please note the deadline is TODAY at 5 PM.

****REMINDER: Deadline extended to Monday, February 6, 2017 @ 5 PM.****



Representative John Becker
Ohio's 65th House District

MEMORANDUM

To: GOP House Members
From: Representative John Becker
Date: February 6, 2017
RE: Co-Sponsor Request: Public Sector Right-to-Work

I will soon be reintroducing a public sector right-to-work bill. This bill was previously introduced in the 131st General Assembly as HB 583.